At a meeting for Sufferings held at Providence the
12th M. 1793 Present George Comstock, Moses Brown, John Casey,
Wm Buffum, Elisha Steere, Sylvester Hicks, Elisha Harris, Jr
Smith, Richard Mowry, Wm. Almy.

The Clerk being absent Wm Almy is appointed Clk for this time

The matter brought up from Sandwich Monthly Meeting respecting the interruption at the meeting at Acushnet coming under consideration, but not any member being present from that quarter it is again refer'd to next Meeting.

Wm. almy reports that he has procured 120 Copies of the London General Epistle to be printed the Cost being 24/ — which the Yearly Meetings treasurer is directed to pay him

This meeting adjourns to half past two this afternoon

Afternoon met by adjournment — Present the same members Friends As in the morning & Thos. Arnold also attended At this time.

This meeting Recd an Epistle from the meeting for Sufferings for the Yearly meeting of maryland dated 5th mo. 25th. 93. Informing that they have recommended to their Quarterly & monthly metings to promote a subscription for the Treatise on baptism by Job Scott

It appearing that some of the Treatise on Baptism by Job Scott might properly be disposed of out of Society, William Almy is appointed to hand to the number of fifty to such Friends as appear likely to have some opportunity to distribute them usefully among enquiring people

The subject of the yearly meeting school funds Came under the Consideration of this meeting, & the Question Whether this meting can do any thing Usefully to revive the School, come weightily to be considerd & after Deliberation the Same is refered to our next meeting for further Consideration — when the General State of School Education in Society is Desired to be considered

This meeting adjourns to the fourth Day preceding the next Quarterly meeting at the their house

1793

At a meeting for Sufferings held at Somerset formerly Swanzey the 2d of 1st mo: 1794

Present Thomas Hazzard, Jacob Mott, Jeremiah Austin Junr, George Comstock, Sylvester Wicks, Joseph Wing, Daniel Aldrige, Benjamin Buffington, Richard Mory, & Samuel Thurston,

The Clerk being Absent Samel Thurston is appointed Clerk for this time

The matter brot up from Sandwich monthly meeting respecting the interruption at the meeting at Acushnet coming again under consideration & it appearing to be the Judgment of this meeting that a committee be appointed to attend the Monthly Meting of Sandwich & Visit those people that Cause the interruption of that meeting at acushnet if way should open

Whereupon Jacob Mott, Jeremiah austin, George Comstock, & Samuel Thurston are appointed for that service they to report in the 3d mo. next

The subject of schools is referd to our next Meeting

School

This meeting Adjourns to the day after the Second 2d day in the 3d Month at Providence 10th hour in the morning — — — —

At a meeting for Sufferings held at Providence the 11th of the 3d mo. 1794. present Moses Brown, Isaac Lanton, Jacob Mott, Paul Green, Elisha Steere, Sylvester Wicks, William Almy, Thomas Hazzard Junr Thomas Arnold Thomas Hazzard, James Smith.

This meeting Recd An Epistle from the meeting for Sufferings in Baltimore dated 12th of 10th mo. 1793 Informing that they have agreed to take 1100 of Job Scotts Treatise on Baptism, & requesting that number may be sent them — — —

The aforesaid Epistle is as follows —

At a meeting for Sufferings for the Yearly Meeting in Maryland held at Baltimore by adjournment the 12th day of 10th mo. 1793

Subscriptions for the Treatise on Baptism by Job Scott, being

from most of the monthly Meetings it is now agreed that eleven hundred Copies may be sent for, and the Clerk is directed to inform the meeting for Sufferings in New England the number proposed, & request that they may be sent to the Care of Elias Elliott or David Brown in Baltimore, with an account of the Cost —

Extracted from the minutes and signed on behalf of the Meeting aforesaid by

Jos. Wright Clerk

This meeting Adjourns to the Three o'clock hour this afternoon

Afternoon met by Adjournment.

Elisha Harris Also attended At this time. —

A few lines from David Buffum One of the Com.ee appointed by the Yearly meeting to visit the Indian congress, Stating an account of his Expences in that service was laid before this Meeting which being Considered the treasurer of the yearly Meeting is hereby directed to pay him the amount thereof being Twelve pounds & Six pence. —

The Com.ee Appointed to procure the treatise On Baptism by our Friend Job Scott to be printed Report that they have procured the same printed the amount of the Cost whereof Including paper folding & Sticking Amts £ 100-10-5

& that the money Rec.d of Sundry m.o Meetings & Individuals for books del.d is — £07-0-5

Leaving A Ballance due from the Meet.g £21-10-0

As p.r their Acc.t Stated & Delivered — £100-10-5

And that about 490 Copies now Remain on hand & Unappropriated

The Meeting for Sufferings at Baltimore having as appears by a Copy of their minute of the 12.th of the 10.th m.o 1793 agreed to take 1100 of these Treatise on Baptism by our Friend Job Scott, & requested us to forward them to Elias Elliott or David Brown, & this meeting on examination finding that they have not more than 400 on hand which they can with propriety spare considering the largness of the subscriptions here Thomas Arnold — is Desired to forward the four Hundred with the amount of the Cost as above with this further Information that this meeting have

to the consideration of the meeting for Sufferings in Philadelphia the printing a new Edition of that Treatise when they may be fully Supplied should it meet the approbation of that meeting to cause a New Edition to be printed

An account of the Expences of making provision for Accommodations of Friends at the Time of the last Yearly Meeting Exhibited by Obadiah Williams & by him acknowledged to be Rec.d of Wm. Rotch Junr. Was presented to this Meeting the amount thereof being thirty seven pounds One Shilling & Eight pence the Treasurer of the Yearly meeting is directed to repay William Rotch Junr. or Order —

The Consideration of the subject of Schools is again Referd to our Next meeting

This meeting Adjourns to the day of the Select meeting of Rhodeisland Quarter, to be held at Greenwich on the 4th. mo. Next at the 3 hour afternoon on the 4th day of the Week —

At a meeting for Sufferings held at East greenwich for new England by adjournments the 9th of the 4th mo. 1794 Present Thomas Hazzard, Jacob Mott, Isac Lanton, Paul Green, David Buffum, James Smith, Begn. Buffington, Elisha Harris, Daniel Aldrich, Richard Mowry, Moses Brown, Wm. Buffum, & Thomas Arnold,

The subject of Schools was taken into Consideration & after Deliberation Wm. Buffum, James Smith, Daniel Aldrich, & Paul Green are appointed a Committee to take the State of Schooling in general & of the Yearly metings School & its funds in particular into Consideration & report their Sense & prospect What is proper (if any thing) to be done by this meeting in that respect —

The state of the acct. of the Comtee. appointed to procure the Treatise on Baptism by Job Scott printed as exhibited at last meeting came under Consideration the treasurer of the Yearly Meeting is directed to pay the Ballance thereof being £21:16 to the order of s.d Comtee. who are directed to pay what monies they have rec.d since exhibiting s.d acct. & what they may hereafter receive for s.d Books into the Yearly meetings Treas-

This meeting adjourns to the 4th day of the 6th next Yearly meeting in the 6th month at Portsmouth at the 9th hour in the morning.

At a Meeting for Sufferings held At Portsmouth for New England, by Adjournment the 11th of the 6th mo 1794

Present. Isaac Lawton Daniel Aldrich Jacob Mott John Cabot Moses Brown Jethro Mitchell Jeremiah Austin James Smith Samuel Thurston Paul Rogers John Winslow Joseph Wing Thomas Hazard junr & William Rotch jr. Also our Friends John Simpson from Pensylvania & Daniel Hisslop from Delaware attended at this time. The Clerk being Absent William Rotch jr is Appointed Clerk for this time.

The following Affectionate Epistle from our Friends & Brethren in the Meeting for Sufferings held At Philadelphia the 17th of the 4th mo last was received together with Copies of the Act of Congress for Prohibiting the Slave Trade. The Report of the Friends whowere Concerned to Visit the Indian Tribes & some of the Frontier Inhabitants, And a Copy of the Memorial of the Three Monthly Meetings of Friends of Philadelphia concerning the Late Awful Visitation of Sickness & Mortality in that City, All Which Were read to our Satisfaction. And are as follow

To the Meeting for Sufferings in New England

Dear Friends

Your Epistle of the 8th mo last brought us the satisfactory Information of the Continued Attention of your Yearly Meeting to the Case of the Distressed Affricans, And the address to Congress Appears to have been Seasonable And Well Adapted to the Occasion; When we were Informed of the Committee coming forward to present it, we Judged it right to manifest our Unity in the Concern by Appointing A Number of the Members of this Meeting to afford them the Necessary Assistance. Six of them Arrived in this City & Attended our Meeting in the first month Last, Which was then Sitting, And

with Satisfaction we Observed the Desire that encouraged their Minds to fulfill their Appointment faithfully, their company was truly Acceptable to us.—

A bill nearly conformable to Your request accordingly passed both houses of the general Legislature, and was confirmed by the President, A Copy whereof is herewith sent you. Hitherto we may humbly Acknowledge the Universal Father hath blessed Our Mutual Endeavours in the Cause of Humanity, which we hope will Encourage both You & us to a diligent Attention to every future Call of Duty in behalf of that injured & Afflicted people, by all means in Our power promoting their religious Improvements and School Education, As well as exciting & Encouraging them to Industry And the Care of themselves & families.—

Our Brethren who were religiously drawn to engage in the important concern of Our yearly meeting for promoting a Reconciliation with the Indians, proceeded on their journey into the western wilderness last summer, A favourable prospect offering of A Numerous Collection of them At a Treaty proposed to be held between them & the general Government Altho the desired purpose was not Accomplished, Our Friends After An Absence of Near five Months from home, returned with the Consolatory evidence of having of having been in the way of Duty, and having given A brief Account to this Meeting of the Occurrencies on their journey, we direct a copy thereof to be sent herewith for your further information; One of their Number our Friend Joseph Moore was removed by Death soon after reaching his habitation in New Jersey.—

The decease of Our Valued Friend Jno Scott is An Event sensibly felt by many since a Worthy member in the Church

But resignation to every Dispensation of unerring Wisdom is Our Duty: Several of Our Members have read this Treatise on Baptism, think well of it & hope it will prove useful for the information of Enquiring Minds, but as we have several Treatises upon the same subject remaining on hand, we do not think it Necessary to print for any of them At Present. —

The Late Awfull visitation of disease Mortality which Attended this City, we desire may be Justifiably kept in Remembrance believing it intended (as it could call both upon Us in this place And also to the Continent at large, to Awaken to righteousness. during its prevalence many Valuable Friends were removed from works to rewards, five of whom were members of this meeting, who were diligent And useful in their respective Stations; for further particulars of that Truly Affecting Dispensation, we refer you to A copy of A memorial of the three Monthly Meetings in Philadelphia which is directed to be herewith sent. —

This meeting being frequently exercised in Aprospect of the present prevailing spirit of Strife & contention, And the Lamentable Ravages of war both in Europe & America; have much desired that we & our Fellow professors may be kept under the Influence of that Divine principle which breaths peace on Earth & good will to men; That while many people on this Continent Are agitated with various Opinions And sentiments, divided into parties, and drawn into popular meetings and Consultations, on Subjects of human policy which Are too frequently conducted in A spirit that produces confusion & Tumult, hence faithfull Friends in ages times of commotion have been restrained from joining with them. may We therefore remember & practice the advice of our Worthy Elder George Fox. — "Whatever business

"Bustlings and Trouble, tumults or Outrages, quarells
"And strife Arise in the world, keep out of them All concern
"Not Yourselves with them, but keep in the Lords Power And
"peaceable Truth, that is over All such things: in Which
"power ye seek the peace And good of All men. — Geo.
Fox's Journall pa. 582". —

There Appears also A great necessity for increasing
care and Watchfulness in Our Occupations And Commerce
Among men, which At present are encompassed with many
difficulties, And often carried On thro' corrupt Channels
defiled with Blood. — so that if Friends will faithfully maintain
their Testimony against the Spirit of the world in its various
delusive Shapes, we fully believe the principle of Truth would
lead into A more circumscribed path in trade & Merchandise than
many have heretofore pursued. —

We salute You with Brotherly re-
-gard And are Your loving Friends & Brethren.

Signed in Behalf of Our Meeting for Sufferings for Pensyl-
-vania, New Jersey &c. held in Philadelphia the 17th of the 4th mo. 1794

John Drinker Clk

A memorial of the monthly Meetings of
Friends of Philadelphia respecting the Solemn Visitation
of diseace Mortality, which lately prevailed in said City.

Amongst the many Calls and warnings
from one time to an Other extended to the Inhabitants
of this City, by the Almighty Creator And Ruler
of the Universe, in order to draw the Attention of the People
to himself, And Awaken them to diligence, in the Momentous

work

work of their Souls salvation, may with great Propriety be
kept in remembrance the late direful Visitation by a Pestilential
disease, which hath Carried off the stage of time many of our Friends
And Fellow Citizens; And we judge it Expedient & proper some
Account thereof on Record, that future generations may be inform-
-ed, & led to commemorate the Judgements And Mercies, which
have been Manifested towards us; More Especially as there were
included Among the many who were Summoned from Time to
Eternity in & near this City, a Considerable Number of our Bre-
-thren & Sisters, Whom We loved & Esteemed for the Uprightness &
Innocency of their lives, and their Labours in the Cause of Truth
And Righteousness; then as well as the Pious Religious of other
Denominations, We hope are removed from the perils & Dangers
of this Probationary State, to a Place of Rest & Peace in the
heavenly Kingdom.—

The sickness made its first Appearance about the
beginning of the Eighth month last year: Opinions are Various as
to the Manner of its Introduction, whether it was brought from abroad
or Originated in this City.——This enquiry may not appear
material to such as have been Enabled to look to the first great
Cause.——"Shall there be evil in the City And the Lord hath
not done it?" saith the Prophet. These were led to believe it was
the divine hand put forth for the humiliation of the people:
who in times of Prosperity had too much forgotten the great Author
of their Blessings; And departed in heart Hon:d not from his
divine Law: For the progress and Nature of the disease was such
as to Confound the researches of human Wisdom; Making its
Advances against the Skill of the Physician And Power of Medicine
carrying off numbers of Various ranks And Ages, notwithstanding
all Endeavours for their help.—

That

That the disease was Infectious & Contagious there was no reason to doubt, as several Families were mostly removed by it. The infection spreading from house to house and by reason of the dread & fear which Accompanied it, Necessary Assistance could scarcely be procured for many of the Sufferers. It increased gradually through the Eighth & the Ninth Month till near the Middle of the Tenth month, when it Appeared to be at the hight; About One Hundred dying in a Day for Several Days. Many of the Inhabitants had removed Out of the City, a few of whom died but in general the disorder spread but little in Country places.

Truly Awful and Afflicting was the Situation of those who remained in the City, owing to various Causes; very little intercourse was had ~~Every~~ Between the Families of the Sick & Others, so that needful Assistance was hardly Attainable, the Infected were in Some instances almost deserted in their Departing moments, even by their Nearest Relations, & Interments were hurried in, in Unequal Manner from prudential Motives. —

Business of most kinds was much Suspended, these & other reasons not easy to be enumerated, concurred to render the Calamity distressing beyond Expression, And had a tendency to humble the Loftyest minds, inasmuch as there seemed no Security for any from present Danger. —

Notwithstanding what is aforementioned as to the deficiency in Attention to the Infected in general, there were many Instances wherein the force of Friendship & filial & Parental Love prevailed Over every discouragement, And the Assistance & Sympathy which Christian Charity Demands were Afforded; in some of which Cases preservation was eminently experienced. Diverse of those who deceased were remarkably favoured in their solemn closing moments, with Calmness And humble resignation to the Divine Will, to the Comfort of Beholders. —

The Yearly meeting was held At the Usual Time, and Attended by A Number of Friends from Various parts of the Country And was A time of solid Instruction; Our Several religious meetings were also maintained regularly, by a small Number of Friends And were often Solemn heartreaching Opportunities. The different Monthly Meetings Appointed committees to Inquire into And extend aid to those in distress And necessity: Our Brethren in New York also have liberally contributed on this Affecting Occasion, donations were likewise received from some of Our country meetings. —

As this Trying dispensation was permitted by Almighty Power, so his gracious Interposition was Evidently conspicuous in the Abatement of it, when human Means proved ineffectual, as in the case of Israel in the time of David the divine Command went forth to the Destroying Angel "it is enough hold now thine hand" so we humbly trust that he who delights in mercy graciously Interposed for our deliverance in this day of our Affliction. —

Towards the end of the Sixth month the disorder considerably abated; in the first part of the eleventh month it subsided, and in the Course of the said month And that following the Inhabitants who had removed mostly returned to their dwellings; many of them, together with those who had remained At their homes, thankfully Acknowledging Israel the Lords doings & marvellous in the Eyes of the People in general. —

during the continuation of the Sickness, great exertions were made by a publick Committee for the relief & Burial of the poor & destitute. An hospital being provided at Bush-hill near the City then a great number were in

care of And supplied with medical Aid. Several Citizens hazarded their Lives from the tenderest motives of the help & Benefit of the infected; many considerable sums of money were given by our Citizens And others Charitably disposed Persons in the Neighbouring Governments, for the humane purpose of relieving the distresses of their Fellowcreatures. &

When the disorder first made its Appearance the City & suburbs was supposed to contain About 50,000 Inhabitants; it was thought One third & more removed into the Country, upwards of 4.000. Deceased And A very considerable proportion of those who remained in Town, were more or less afflicted with the disorder; but recovered. So that the Effects of this awful Visitation were generally experienced in most Families either by the decease of or Sickness of some of them, their relations, or near Friends. Upon the whole it is our duty to acknowledge that great mercy evidently accompanied this sore Judgement, which Demands reverend thankfulness from us, both as Individuals, & as a Society, to the Almighty Preserver of Men, to Whom belongs Power And Glory forever. &

Philadelphia 1mo. 20th. 1794.

This Meeting being Desirous that the Journal & Writings of our late dearly Beloved Friend & Brother Job Scott should be preserved for general Benefit do Appoint Moses Brown & Elisha Thornton to

collect his papers & Select such parts as he may Apprehend Useful for Publication, And report thereon to this meeting in order that they may be duly Instructed.

It Appearing Necessary that some provision made for the Accommodation of Friends At Newport during sitting of the Yearly Meeting, we Appoint Samuel Thurston Thomas ~~Robins~~ Hazard jun^r And William Rotch Junior, that service & report the Expence at an Adjournment of this meeting.

This Meeting adjourns to Half past Eleventh hour Tomorrow morning.

12^th day met by adjournment. Present The same Members as Yesterday except Joseph Wing. Thomas Hazard David Buffum James Davis Remington Hobby William Buffum Richard Mary Ann Jeremiah Austin Jun^r Attended At this time Part of the Committee Appointed in the first month to visit Sandwich Monthly Meeting Made the following report viz. According to Appointment we of the Committee to visit Sandwich Monthly Meeting, those people that cause the Interruption At a Meeting have visited said Meeting And One of those people that cause the Interruption, And upon conferring with the committee from Sandwich monthly meeting they informed us that it was their Judgement that altho the Interruption was continued yet it would not be prudent to make Any Move in that matter at Present, as it would as they Apprehended tend to bring them those people in their Opposition, which would shut up our way from visiting Any of those people, however we visited one of the principle of them, And After some conversation with him we thought it not best to proceed

further in that Matter, but to Endeavour to give a Circumstantial Account of the Matter Did Leave it with the Meeting.

To the Meeting for Sufferings to be held at Portsmouth Next. — Jacob Mott

Dartmouth 6th mo. 7th 1794. — Jeremiah Austin

Which is Accepted and it not appearing Requisite for this meeting to Continue Any further care at present in that matter said Committee Are released.

This Meeting Adjourns to the Close of the Yearly Meeting.

At a meeting for Sufferings held at Portsmouth the 6th of the 8th mo. 1794. Present — Isaac Lawton Jacob Mott Moses Brown John Casey Benedict Arnold William Rotch Jr. Elisha Harris Silvester Weeks Jeremiah Austin Jr. James Davis Thomas Hazard Jr. Daniel Aldrich William Almy David Bussom & Paul Greene. Our Friend Joshua Evans on a Religious Visit from the Jerseys Also Attended At this time, Also Our Friend James Mott from the Government of Newyork. —

One of the Committee Appointed to collect the papers Our beloved Friend Job Scott & to Select such of them as they Apprehend might be Usefully published, Informs that they have paid Attention to their Appointment, But that the service from the Nature of it Appears to them so extensive and Arduous that they Apprehend An Addition to the Committee necessary; Which concurred with & William Rotch Jr. Isaac Lawton David Bussom William Almy Thomas Arnold Silvester Weeks & Jacob Mott. are appointed to Unite with the first Named Friends in the said & in conjunction with them prepare the papers

papers for this Meetings Inspection & report to Next

The Committee Appointed to make the Necessary provision for the Accommodation of Friends at the late Yearly Report the expense to have been forty two pounds five Shillings which the Treasurer is Directed to pay William Rotch Jun.

At a meeting for Sufferings held at Pro. the 9th of the 9br mo. 1794 Present —

Isaac Lawton Jacob Mott Moses Brown John Casey Caleb Bessum Silvester Wales Elisha Thornton, James Smith Benja. Bessington Elisha Harris Samuel Thurston William Bessington William Almy & William Rotch Jun. Also our Friend David Attended At this time.

The Clerk being Absent William Rotch Jun. is Appointed Clerk for this time.

After some discussion of a Subject that came before the Meeting Adjourned to the 3 hours this afternoon.

Afternoon Met by Adjournment present the same as in the Morning. The Committee Appointed to Examine the papers of our Deceased Friend Job Scott Deceased having had some progress therein, but Not having prepared any part of their Writings to Lay before this Meeting they are continued & Desired to give further Attention thereto And to Select such parts of their Writings As they may think best & Lay before this meeting for their Approbation & report At our next Sitting.

The General Epistle from our Friends & Brethren At their last Yearly meeting held in London was received & read to our Satisfaction & Moses Brown is Appointed to have 140 copies thereof Printed & report to next meeting

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Smithfield

8th of the 10th m.o 1794. present Moses Brown David Buffum Elisha Thornton William Buffum Benedict Arnold Elisha Harris Daniel Aldrich Silvester Wales Samuel Thurston Richard Mowry William Almy Elisha Thurston Isaac Lawton & Jacob Mott. —

The Clerk being Absent William Almy is appointed Clerk for this time. —

Two of the Friends Appointed to Examine the papers of our beloved Friend Job Scott Deceased inform that they Committee have Not made any further progress in that Business since Last meeting Owing to Indisposition of Body & some other Circumstances; They are therefore continued to attend thereto & report to Next meeting. —

This Meeting Adjourns to the Close of the Quarterly Meeting to Meet then tomorrow. —

At the Close of the Quarterly meeting the Meeting Met by Adjournment the same Members present as at last sitting, but the time being far Spent the Meeting Adjourns to the 10th hour tomorrow. —

10th day Met by Adjournment present the same Members as Yesterday except Daniel Aldrich & James Smith attended at this time. —

Moses Brown informs that he had engaged to to have printed the London Printed Epistle, but that the Copies are not yet ready for distribution He is continued and desired when they are finished to forward them to the several Monthly Meetings and report the expence thereof to the next Meeting

The Committee appointed in the fourth Month last to take into consideration the Situation of Education in general and of the Yearly Meeting's School and its Funds in particular report that the Debt Principal and Interest is about Six hundred & Eighty

Pounds

engaged, it might not be well to put the School again in motion. It that it was their judgement it would be advisable to recommend the Several Monthly Meetings to set up at least one school in each Meeting under the direction and at the expence of the same. The consideration of which is referred to our Meeting.

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence the 9th of the 12mo. 1795. Present. Moses Brown David Buffum Elisha Thornton George Comstock. Isaac Lawton. Samuel Thurston Daniel Aldrich William Buffum Elisha Harris William Almy Thomas Arnold Silvester Hicks.

The Committee appointed to Select and prepare the Writings of our friend Job Scott to be laid before this Meeting inform. that they have spent considerable time in that service but are not yet ready to lay any part thereof before this Meeting. and after considerable deliberation in the way best to the easiest method of the Committee proceeding in the service Still continue the Committee to procure and accomplish the same in such manner as to them appears most useful

Moses Brown informs that he has procured the London Epistles printed and they are divided and principally forwarded to the different Meetings.

The subject of Education in general and the Yearly Meeting School and Funds in particular is referred to our next Meeting

This Meeting adjourns to the 3d hour this Afternoon —

Afternoon met by adjournment John Casey also attended at this time.

Friends proceeded in reading some parts of Job Scotts Journal in order to advise and assist the Committee in selecting and digesting the same, which was then left to the Committee to accomplish,

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Sommersett the 7th of the 1st Mo 1795. present. Jacob Mott Isaac Lawton. Moses Brown Samuel David David Buffum George Comstock, Thomas Hazard. Elisha Thornton Benjamin Buffum Daniel Aldrich Silvester Hicks Jeremiah Briggs jun.r Thomas Hazard jun.r William Rotch jun.r

The Committee appointed to Select and examine the Writings of our friend Job Scott, Laid before this Meeting some of the same, also the Meeting having spent the sitting in hearing the same read and making such alterations as appeared to the Meeting necessary to the accomplishment of this Meeting which is

18 the 6th hour to morrow Evening.

Evening of the 8th day. Met by adjournment. present Isaac Lawton, Jacob Mott, Moses Brown, Elisha Thornton, David Buffum, James Davis, Georg Comstock, Silvester Weeks, Jeremiah Austin, Junr. William Almy, Thomas Hazard Junr. Elisha Harris, Benjamin Buffington, Daniel Aldrich, & William Rotch Junr.

The Evening being spent in hearing the Journal of our Friend
J.S. Job Scott read, and making some corrections — the subject is referred to our next sitting.

This Meting Adjourns to the third day after the second second day in the second month at Providence at the 10th hour.

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence the 10th of the 2d Month 1795 — present.
Isaac Lawton, Jacob Mott, David Buffum, Moses Brown, Elisha Thornton, Elisha Steer, William Buffum, Elisha Harris, William Almy, Samuel Thurston, Silvester Weeks, Thomas Hazard Junr. William Rotch Junr. & Thomas Arnold —.

This Setting having been spent in examining our Friend Job Scotts Journal — adjourned to the third hour this Afternoon —.

Afternoon met by Adjournment. present, the same Members as in the Morning.

Having spent the remainder of the day in Reading and Correcting the Journal under consideration in the morning, this Meeting Adjourned to the Ninth hour to Morrow in the forenoon.

11th day Met by Adjournment. present. the same Members as Yesterday.

The Meeting continued to employ this forenoon upon Job Scotts Journal and then adjourned to meet again at the third Hour this afternoon.

Afternoon. met by Adjournment. present, the same Members as have heretofore attended, except Elisha Thornton & William Buffum.

J.S. The Afternoon being spent upon the said Journal, the Meeting adjourned to the Ninth hour to morrow Morning.

12th Day Met by Adjournment present the same Members as last Evening. Adjourned to the third hour this Afternoon.

Afternoon, Met by Adjournment present. the same Members as in the Morning.

the.

The Meeting having spent the remainder of this Day in Reading the Journal under consideration, and preparing it for the Press, Adjourned to the Ninth hour to Morrow Morning.

Writings of J. S.

—— The subject of Education is referred to the next Meeting.

13th Day. Met by Adjournment, present the same Members as Yesterday.

The Meeting having gone through the first Volume in Manuscript of the Journal, Adjourned to the usual time of our next meeting.

At a Meeting of Sufferings held at Providence the 10th of the 3d Month 1795. present, Isaac Lawton, Moses Brown, William Buffum, Silvester Wickes, Elisha Harris, Samuel Thurston, William Rotch Junr, Jeremiah Austin Junr, William Almy, Richard Mowry, Thomas Arnold.

Having further Read and Examined Job Scotts Journal during this forenoon, The Meeting Adjourns to the 3d hour this Afternoon.

Afternoon Met by Adjournment, present, the same Members as in the morning.

Having spent the Afternoon on the same Subject as in the forenoon, the meeting adjourns to the Ninth hour to morrow morning.

11th Day, Met by Adjournment, present, the same Members as Yesterday. Adjourned to the third hour this Afternoon.

Afternoon met by Adjournment, present, the same members as in the morning Except William Buffum.—

Having spent this Day upon the Journal of our Friend Job Scott The Meeting Adjourned to half after the Eighth hour to Morrow Morning

12th Day. Met by Adjournment, present the same Members as Yesterday Afternoon. This Meeting Adjourns to the third Hour this Afternoon.

Afternoon, Met by Adjournment Present the same Members as in the Morning.

Having spent this day on the Journal this Meeting adjourns to half after the Eighth hour to Morrow Morning.

13th. Day. Met by Adjournment present the same Members as yesterday.——

This Meeting Adjourns to the Third hour this Afternoon

Afternoon Met by Adjournment present the same

Members as in the Morning.

Having Spent the day on the Journal, the meeting adjourns to the Ninth hour to morrow morning

4th. Day Met by Adjournment present the same Members as Yesterday.

The subject of Education is referred to our next meeting.

Having spent this day as the preceding days of this Week upon the aforementioned Journal — this meeting adjourns to the 10th hour in the morning of 3d day preceding the next Quarterly meeting at Greenwich.

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at East Greenwich for New England the 7th of the 4th Month 1795, present, Jacob Mott, Moses Brown, Isaac Lawton, David Buffum, John Casey, Samuel Thurston, Elisha Thornton, Silvester Wicks, Elisha Harris, William Almy, Thomas Arnold.

The Meeting having Spent the Afternoon of this day in Reading and inspecting Job Scotts Journal, Adjourn to the usual time of our Stated meeting this month.

8. of the 4th Month. Met by Adjournment, Present Thomas Wazard, Isaac Lawton, Jacob Mott, Moses Brown, Elisha Thornton, David Buffum, George Comstock, John Casey, Elisha Harris. Silvester Wicks, Samuel Thurston, James Smith, Richard Mowry, William Almy.

The Clerk being absent William Almy is appointed Clerk for this time.

The Meeting again Resumed the reading and inspection of Job Scotts Journal — Adjourned to the third 3d day of next Month to meet at Providence on the Tenth Hour.

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence the 19th of 8mo 1795. Present.

Isaac Lawton, Moses Brown, Daniel Aldrich, Elisha Thornton, John Casey, Elisha Harris, William Buffum, Silvester Wicks, James Smith, William Almy, Thomas Arnold —

This Meeting having Spent the forenoon in Reading Job Scotts Journal — adjourn to the 3d hour this afternoon

Afternoon Met by Adjournment present the same Members as in the morning

Having employed this Afternoon in Reading and correcting the said Journal — Adjourn to the Ninth Hour to Morrow Morning.

2 5
795

20th Day. Met by Adjournment, present, the Same Members as Yesterday.

The Meeting Resumed the Examination of Job Scotts Journal and compleated the 2d Manuscript Volume and the same is directed to be Transcribed for the Press.

It appearing Necessary that some care and Provision be made for the Accomodation of Friends during the Setting of the Yearly Meeting at Newport, our Friends David Buffum, and Samuel Thurston, are appointed for that service, and to call for such further Assistance of Friends at Newport as may be necessary to effect the same in the most acceptable manner —— and to Report the Accot of Expences to a future Sitting of this Meeting

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Portsmouth the 10th of 6th Mo 1795 Present Isaac Sutton, [illegible] David Buffum Elisha [illegible] John Carey Moses Brown Jeremiah Austin Paul Greene John Winslow Paul [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

Journal
J. J.

Monthly Meeting in the 8th mo at Lynn; in the 12th mo at Smithfield; in the 1st mo at Swansey; in the 4th mo at Greenwich: and in the 10th mo at Redford. [which last Select Meeting is held on 5th day before the first 1st day] and on the 3d day following the 2d 1st day in the 9th 12th & 3d Months at the 10th at Providence.

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Portsmouth the 13th of 8th mo 1775. — Present twelve Members. — There not being members enough present yet to say at the end of the Select Meeting, Friends concluded to meet this morning, and have met Accordingly.

Our Friend Henry Hull from Nine partners also attended this Meeting.

The Committee to peruse & prepare for the Press that part of the Journal of our friend Job Scott which has been read & considered in this Meeting, report, that that service is not yet Accomplished; they are desired to attend to it and report to their next Meeting.

This Meeting having again resumed the examination of Job Scott's Journal, on having made some progress it is again referred to their next Meeting. —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence the 15th of the 8th — 1775. present Eleven members — William Hoag is appointed Clerk for this time.

The Committee to point & correct for the press, that part of the Journal of Job Scott which was committed to them, report, that they have made some progress in that service; but not completed it; they are continued to compleat it, and report to the next Meeting. — The Committee appointed to peruse & prepare for the examination of the Press that part of the Journal of Job Scott which was committed to them, report, that Service was accomplished the Expence thereof being sixty pounds six Shillings & nine pence

of which the Treasurer has advanced Forty Eight Pounds, the balance twelve pounds 24/ shillings 5 5 9 pence the Treasurer is directed to pay to them or their order. — This Meeting Adjourns to the 3d hour this Afternoon.

Afternoon met by Adjournment. — present the same members as in the morning. — the Meeting having proceeded in the reading &c of Job Scotts Journal, Adjourns to the 8.½ hour tomorrow morning. —

16th day, met by Adjournment, present the same Members as yesterday; the Meeting continued the services of yesterday: and Adjourns to the 3d hour this Afternoon.

Afternoon met by Adjournment. present the same members as in the morning: the meeting having gone thro the 3d manuscript Volume of the Journal of Our Friend Job Scott, the same is committed to Elisha Thornton to correct as near as may be according to the remarks this meeting has committed to him, and Moses Brown & William Biffum are appointed to aid him such advisory aid as he may stand in need of to effect the same: and they are also desired to procure the same Transcribed when they have corrected it. —

The second Manuscript volume of the Journal aforesaid, being transcribed, Moses Brown, Thomas Arnold, and William Hiney, are appointed to compare the same with the Original, and print it &c for the press and report when accomplished.

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at New Bedford the 1st of the 10th mo. 1795. present 14 members, Thomas Arnold is appointed Clerk for the day. The Committee to print & correct for the press, the first Manuscript volume of the Journal of Our friend Job Scott, inform that it is now accomplished, one of the Committee having been confin

with Sickness most of the time since our last Meeting— they are continued to accomplish that Service & report in the 12th mo next.—

Journal of J Scott

The Meeting having proceeded in reading and considering the Journal of our friend Job Scott, Adjourns to the 7th hour this evening—

7th hour in the evening, met by ~~Ad~~ Adjournment, present—the same members as at the last sitting— and having spent the Evening upon said Journal, this Meeting Adjourns to half after the 8th hour to-morrow Morning.

2nd day met by Adjournment, present the same Members as Yesterday.

Having spent this Morning upon Job Scotts Journal, the Meeting Adjourns to the 8th hour tomorrow morning.

3d day met by Adjournment, present the same members as Yesterday, except Jethro Mitchel.

The forenoon having been spent in reading, in the Evening Hearing & correcting ~~the~~ Job Scotts Journal, Closed—

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Smithfield the 7th of the 10th mo 1795— present—14 members—Sylvester Vickers is appointed Clerk the remaining part of the year.

The London printed Epistle of 1795 was received & read in this Meeting, and Moses Brown is directed to procure 120 Copies printed and report—when accomplished.— Adjourned to the 10th hour on next 6th day the 9th instant.—

9th day met by Adjournment present the same members as at our last Meeting— Elisha Sherry, James Smith & Elisha Thornton also attended at this time

Reading Job Scotts Journal & Minutes

The Meeting proceeded in, and completed the reading the 4th manuscript volumne of Job Scotts Journal—

Journal, the same is committed to Our friends of the former Committe on that subject, and that to ~~report~~ make the necessary corrections.

Our friends Moses Brown, Thomas Arnold & William Almy are directed to write to the Meetings for Sufferings of New York, and Philadelphia, informing them of the progress we have made in preparing the Journal of Our Society for the Press, and that it would be satisfactory to this Meeting that they have a view of the Manuscript previous to its being printed if they desire it.

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence the 15th of the 12th Month 1795.

present 11 members. — Moses Brown who was directed to have 120 Copies of the London Epistle reprinted, Reports, that he has received 250 Copies direct from London, which superseeded the necessity of reprinting them here.

The friends who had the care of (correcting) transcribing the 3 manuscript volumn of Job Scotts Journal presented it at this time.

The Meeting Adjourns to half after 2 o'clock this afternoon.

Afternoon met by Adjournment, present the same Members as in the Morning. Elisha Harris also attended at this time.

The Meeting proceeded in reading & further correcting the 3d Manuscript volumn of S. Journal as presented by the Committee.

Adjourned to the 9th hour tomorrow morning.

16th day met by Adjournment, present the same members as yesterday.

The Meeting proceeded in reading and compleated the examination of the 3d manuscript volumn of the aforesaid Journal as presented by the Committee, and Our friends Moses Brown, Thomas Arnold & William Storey are appointed to further prepare the same for the press.

3d Vol. finished

At a Meeting for sufferings held at Summerset the 6th of the 1st Mo. 1796. present 13 members.

The Committe to correspond with the Meetings for sufferings of New York & Philadelphia, respecting Job Scotts Journal, presented a minute from the Meeting for sufferings of New York, wherein they express a desire to have the perusal of the work as soon as they may be furnished therewith; the Committee are desired to forward the same as fast as it may be ready for their perusal. This Meeting is Adjourned to third day after the second first day in next month at Providence.

New York & Philad.a or J. Scott

At a Meeting for sufferings held at Providence the 9th of the 2nd Month 1796. present 15 members as follows Received the 4th manuscript volumn of Job Scotts Journal as Transcribed by the Committee, the same being again read, is committed to Moses Brown, Thomas Arnold & William Storey to point & further prepare for the press. Adjourned to the 3d hour this afternoon.

4th Vol. read & committed

Afternoon met by Adjournment present the same members as in the morning. The Meeting proceeded in and went through the reading of the remaining part of Job Scotts Journal.

containing an account of his voyage to Europe, his travels & labours there, and the same is committed to our friends who had the care of transcribing the preceding numbers, to transcribe this also, and correct the same as far as may be necessary: And our friends William Rotch jun. Thomas Hazard jun. & James Davis are appointed to further bring up the account of his life, from the time he left writing until his decease: also to prepare an Introduction to his journal. Adjourned to the 9th hour tomorrow morning.

16th day met by Adjournment. present the same members as yesterday. The Committee appointed to confer with the Meetings for Sufferings of New York and Philadelphia presented a Letter from a Committee of the Meeting for Sufferings of Philadelphia from which there appears a willingness in that Meeting to unite in promoting the Subscriptions &c for the Journal of Christian Jacob Scott. It appearing probable that this Journal may be soon transcribed & prepared for the press, the appointed Moses Brown, Sylvester Hicks and Thomas Arnold to make preparation to forward the work and have it put to the press as soon as it may be ready, & we can acquire a knowledge of what number of Copies may be necessary.

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence the 15th of the 3d mo 1796. present 15 members. The Committee for that purpose presented a fair Copy of Christian Jacob Scott's Journal & laboured through and the Meeting proceeded in reading

further correcting the same.

Adjourned to the third hour this afternoon.

Correction of 6th afternoon

6th afternoon met by adjournment.

Present the same members as in the morning.

The Meeting continued the reading and correcting the aforementioned Journal until evening, and then Adjourned to the 9th hour tomorrow morning.

16th day met by Adjournment. present the same Members as yesterday.

The Meeting proceeded in, and finished the reading the last number of said Journal, and the same is committed to Moses Brown, Thomas Arnold, William Binney to point & further prepare for the press.

Adjourned to the 11th hour this afternoon.

met by Adjournment. present the same members as in the Morning.

The Committee for that purpose presented an account of the life, and last sayings of our friend Jabez Hatt from the time he left writing until his decease, Compiled from materials furnished us by friends of Ireland, who were with him in his last sickness, which being approved is referred to the Committee to be transcribed and annexed to the Journal.

Life & S.S.

The Committee also presented a short introduction to said Journal, which being read the subject is referred to our Meeting next month.

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Greenwich the 6th of the 4th mo. 1796. present Members. the Meeting having spent the afternoon in

conferring on the business before us. Adjourned to the close of the Quarterly Meeting.

At the close of the Quarterly, met according to adjournment, present the same Members as at our last sitting, except Thomas Hazard & James Smith.

This Meeting receive a Copy of a minute of Swansey Monthly Meeting presented by their Clerk, together with a Copy of the Journal of Our Deceased Friend Abiezer Brayton & some of her Letters by Order of said Monthly Meeting presented for the consideration & disposal of this Meeting.

Our Friends Samuel Thurston, Jacob Mott & David Buffum are appointed to take the necessary care to make provision for the accommodation of Friends at the ensuing Yearly Meeting: And they are hereby ordered to draw on the Treasurer for one hundred Dollars for that purpose, and report at a suitable time after the Yearly Meeting.

The Committee appointed in the 2nd mo. last to prepare for printing the Journal of Our Friend Job Scott, are directed to draw money from Our Treasurer to defray the expence of Transcribing Paper for printing &c. said Journal, not exceeding two hundred Dollars - the same to be replaced by the sale of the Books.

At a meeting for Sufferings held at [illegible] in Rhode Island for New England the 8th of 6mo 1796 Present 21 members as follows — Moses Lawton, Jacob Mott, Moses Brown, Sam Tucker, David Buffum, William Almy

Joseph Wing, Thomas Hazard jr. William Rouse jr.
Ministers, Thomas Ellery, Jeremiah Austin, Barrington
Gay, John Winslow, Isaac Davis, Silas Mitchel, Jeremiah
Austin, Elisha Thurston, Daniel Howe, Obed Harris,
Richard Howes, Paul Gyles, Thomas Thurston, Joseph
Hughes, William Hayden & Elizabeth White.

One ages Elias Thomas Hay from Dartmouth
also attended at this time,

This Meeting Received a Letter from Nantucket monthly
from Meeting for the Eastern District — Desiring
Nantucket advice Respecting some Friends that have Gone off
from that Meeting to the Eastern parts which Letter is
as also of Copy of Sundry Papers Respecting the Case
of Friends in said Colonies, which Subject we view
as a matter proper to be laid before the next Meeting
and Moses Brown is Desired to take a Copy of
of this Minute with the Letter from Nantucket before the
ensuing Yearly meeting accordingly

The Clerk is Directed to lay the minute of this
meeting for the Year past before the ensuing Yearly
Meeting.

This meeting adjourns to the close of the Yearly
Meeting at Newport.

1716 Close of the Yearly Meeting met according to
adjournment, present 29 members viz. ——
Thomas Lawton Henry Oliver, Thomas Thurston, Thomas
Peleg Mowry, Moses Brown, Isaac Hall, David Wilson,
Nathan Mitchel, William Hazard, Isaac Davis, Nathan
Bentley, Jonathan Ogden, Jeremiah Austin, Jeremiah
Austin, Thomas Ellery, John Winslow, Daniel Howland,

William Veitch jr, Samuel Tyndale, William Brown, Joseph
Hiley, Isaac Morgan, Benjamin Seaborn, Thomas Lee
Daniel Heinrich, William Bussum, Samuel Collins, Josiah
Harris, Sylvester Wicker.

Ordered that the Clerk of this meeting
[illegible] being Expired, the Choice of a new one is
referred to our next meeting and Sylvester Wicker is
appointed Clerk for this day.

Isaac Hall, William Bussum and Samuel Thurston,
are appointed to audit the account of Expenses of
this yearly meeting, and the Treasurer is desired to
pay the amount of what may be due, to their order,
and they report at our next meeting.

It is Concluded that the fixed Sittings of this meeting
be held as heretofore, three days, for the year ensuing
held as last year.

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Boston
in Massachusetts for New England the 10th of 8th Mo. 1776
present Nicholas Upsall, John Cary, Charles
Bulfinch, Benedict Arnold, William Hunter, Jeremiah
Austin, Moses Brigham, Caleb Allen, Nathaniel
Vans, Jonathan Smith, Benjamin Seaborn, Samuel Collins,
Sylvester Wicker.

The Committee appointed by this Board at our
last meeting, having [illegible] Consideration, Sylvester
Wicker is appointed to attend the next Session of the
General Assembly

The two first numbers of the Journal of this Yearly
Meeting

32

1796

No 2

[illegible] Journal in the Journal which the meeting [illegible]

is referred to our meeting in the ninth month

18 mo. A meeting of Friends held at Newport Rhode Island for New England the 6th of 10mo 1796.

Present 12 members Viz. Jeremiah Austin, David Mott, Isaac Lawton, Moses Brown, Jethro Milnes, Samuel Hunter, John Winslow, Benjamin Freeborn Thomas Rogers and [illegible]

at the time of our meeting in the [illegible] only 8 members attended, and divers neighbouring meetings held for only one of them [illegible] was no meeting at that time, those of the island was Relieved by Friends.

The meeting adjourned to afternoon

Notes from N.Y. Yearly Meeting

and existing some remarks made by the [illegible] Sufferings of New York, or [illegible] Journal, and Completed them in the [illegible]

adjourned to the ninth hour to morrow morning.

7th Day met by adjournment.

Present the same members as yesterday

the meeting continued to consider [illegible] on the second number of the Scotts Journal,

7th Day in the evening [illegible]

the same members as in the morning except [illegible] Austin, — proceeded to read [illegible] by Friends of New York and [illegible] the second number

1796
2d mo.

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Nantucket the
12th, 10 = 1796.

Present as members Jno. Mott, Arthur Gorham,
Chas. Coffin, Daniel Worth, Mos. Brown, Wm.
Pennington, Elisha Mott, Elisha Ferris, William Coffin,
Reuben Macy, Benedict Arnold, William Rotch,
Wm. Gray, Samuel Starbuck, William Macy.

The Clerk being absent William Macy is appointed
Clerk for this time.

The Minutes of the last Quarterly Meeting held
in the City of New York on the first day of the Sixth
month last were read and approved and ordered to be
recorded in the Third manuscript volume. The meeting
adjourned to the ninth hour tomorrow.

13th Day met by adjournment, present the same
Members as yesterday, except Elisha Mott.

The meeting resumed the Consideration of the minutes
relating to the New York and the 3d manuscript
volume of the Journal of our Yearly Meeting was
perused, and went through the same.

The meeting is informed that 230 Copies
of the Epistle from our Yearly Meeting held
in Great Britain were received and
ordered to be read in this Meeting to-morrow
and Dismissed, three Copies of which to be
sent there to the Quarterly Meetings.

34
1796
12mo

At a meeting for Sufferings held at the House
for New England the 13th of 12th 1796

Present 18 members viz — Moses Brown,
Isaac Lawton, David Buffum, Jun. Moses White
Jno Slocum, William Hoag, Daniel Howland
Arnold Buffum, Richard Mowry, William Buffum,
Thomas Hazard 3d, William Hazard, Jno Thurston,
Elisha Harris, Hope Sprague, Jno Wilbur
Daniel Howland, Elizabeth Collins

The meeting received the 4th and 5th volumes
of Besse's Sufferings and entered on the minutes
Notes N.Y. &c
from the meeting for Sufferings in New York,
and the Committee [illegible] in Isaac Wing's
the notes on the fourth volume,

adjourned to half after 2 o'clock

Afternoon met by adjournment
present the same members as in the morning, except
Daniel Howland jr and John Casey.

James Smith attended at this
the meeting produced & examined the minutes of the
meeting for Sufferings of New York and directed
their [illegible]
made some progress in the notes on the fifth volume

adjourned to the ninth hour to morrow morning

14th Day met by adjournment

present the same members as yesterday
except Elisha Harris

the meeting proceeded [illegible] the
Consideration of the [illegible]

1796
2 mo
S.
Journal
Friends
in Britain

sufferings Chesterfield — The Journal being read
many for the present and the next publick
Friends to have five hundred copies printed
and as many more as they after corresponding with
Friends at the westward may think proper
And also for more purposes for Subscriptions & over
Thousand monthly meetings with the rest

At a meeting for sufferings held at Burn-
ham at ye Inn England the 11th of 1mo 1797
present 11 members Viz Moses Brown, Isaac Lawton, Elisha
Thornton, Daniel Mann, Moses Brown, Jr. Jeremiah
Thornton, Reuben Haskell, Jr. Thomas Arthur, David Buffum
Joshua Harris, Benjamin Lawton, Samuel Thornton,
Elisha Thornton, and Matt Williamson Henry Hall & Caleb
Gifford Friends,

12th Day met by adjournment,
the meeting to call the members all present that attended
yesterday except Dan'l Thornton,

The meeting having resumed the Consideration of what
may be necessary to record the Journal of our friend Job
Scott, it is agreed that the Testimony of Friends made
concerning, and that from the last Yearly meeting of
Pennsylvania be adopted for that purpose,

The Clerk is directed to procure a Copyy of
following minute & the several monthly meetings of
the valuable Journal of our Beloved friend Job Scott

Recorded

1787
June

Deserve, it is expected Soon to be printed to Contain about three hundred octavo pages, Some new letters, the price to be three quarters of a Dollar. Each monthly meeting is Desired to appoint a Suitable person or persons to Receive Subscriptions, and pay over the money to Mofes Brown of Providence, who has the Care of forwarding the Same to the printer in New York, the Books will be delivered to your Committee as Soon as may be,

At a meeting for Sufferings held at [illegible] for Nine months the 4th, 1787 — present [illegible] Isaac Lucken, Mofes Brown, [illegible] Daniel Wheeler, Isaac Lay, Benjamin Kelly, Elisha Tuttle, Jacob Lay, Jun. with the Clerk. David Sands, William Hunt, Isaac Hunt, Thomas Hazard, Huffington, William Huffman, William [illegible] Sylvester Wilkes.

Adjourned to the third hour this afternoon.

The meeting met by adjournment,
All members all present that attended in the morning.
The meeting Read the Minutes of the morning
in reading and Conferring on Sundry weighty matters
that Came before them,

Adjourned to the ninth hour tomorrow morning.

25th Day met by adjournment, The members all present
that attended yesterday.

Agreeable to the Desire of this meeting Some time
past, Thomas Hazard, Certain Remarks on Doctri-
nal Subjects, left on [illegible] Question, in the
[illegible] meeting, that [illegible]
[illegible] the Clerk Read
[illegible] it is Judged

Job Scott
on Doctrine

that

1797
3 mo.

On Printing of Journal

Resolved that there be printed, under the Inspection of Samuel Rowland & Jonathan Evans, Two Hundred Copies of the Journal of this Meeting for the Year 1797 to be delivered to the Committee appointed to attend the Meeting for Sufferings in New York, to lay before their Meeting a Copy of this minute, to manifest the Desire that they take Care of the remainder of the Books, and procure Subscribers among their members for the Journal.

Journals P. B

Resolved that the Committee for printing Jos. Scott's Journal, be desired to confer with the Committee of the Meeting for Sufferings at Philadelphia, desiring them to promote Subscriptions for the Journal in such way, and manner as they may think proper.

At a meeting for Sufferings held at East Greenwich the 12th day of 11th mo. 1797 — present 17 members by Isaac Lowry, Elisha Tyler, Jon. Havens, Jr., Daniel Hazard, Matt. Robinson, Henry Hazard, Thomas Lawton, Jonathan Peckham, Daniel Peckham, Esther Hazard, Mary Tillinghast, Elisha Harris, Joseph Tompkins, Daniel Hazard, Thomas Casey, William Rotch, Thomas Arnold, Sylvester Weeden

The Committee appointed to attend the Meeting for Sufferings in New York, having Notice that the Meeting will be held at the usual time, request our friends Samuel Thurston and Benjamin Hoxsie to make the necessary provision for the accommodation of Friends at the Ensuing Yearly Meeting, and to depart the evening before at a convenient time for this meeting and the Committee is hereby directed to draw on the Treasurer for Two Dollars for that purpose

At a meeting for Sufferings held at Portsmouth
on Rhode Island for New England the 7th of 6mo 1797

Present 26 members by Name viz Isaac Davis, Peter Coggeshall,
Isaac Lawton, Hezekiah Rivers, Jeremiah Austin jr.
Stephen Taber, William Hiss, Benjamin Crawford, Moses
Brayton, Elisha Harris, Elisha Slocum, Samuel Hicks,
Paul Greene, Richard Casey, Esther Hubbard, Thomas
Hazard jr. William Rotch jr. Paul Macy, William
Luccock, Paul Hazard, Joseph Wing, William Potter,
Samuel Collins, Dighton Hall.

Thomas Hazard jun. Who was appointed on the
Yearly last to have some manumitted, told the over
Friend Job Scott Deceased, transmitted from
at this time, and it having been agreed that said
manuscript be the meeting for Sufferings
New York and Philadelphia for
Stephen Casey, John Tabor, William Rotch jun. Moses
Brown, are appointed to make the necessary Communi-
cation to them on that and such other subjects as may
appear Necessary and report at the next meeting.

Our Friends David Mason from Philadelphia
and Thomas Buckley from New York attended this meet-
ing which concluded in unity.

Job Scott's Doctrine sent to New York Phila.

It having been represented to this meeting
that the present militia Law in the State of Rhode Island
we believe it our Duty to suggest the Consideration of the
subject to the yearly meeting, and the Clerk is directed

to lay a Copy of this minute before the Quarterly
Meeting accordingly.

The Clerk is also Directed to lay the records of this
meeting for the Year past before the ensuing Yearly
meeting.

Adjourned to the Close of the Yearly meeting

At a Meeting of Sufferings held at Newport
at the close of the Yearly Meeting the 13th of 4th mo. 1797 Present 28
Members, viz. Moses Brown, Sam. Auber, Dan. Anthony, Simon Lazarus Jun., Joseph Davis, Jeremiah Austin, Jr. John Casey, Jeb
Chaloner, Asa Smith, Jacob Arnold, Thomas Wilbur, Sam. Thurston,
Stephen Hoag, Smith Brown, Moses Brayton, Samuel Cornell
Jr. Benjamin Jenne, Miles Peter Potter, Joseph Smith
Ben. Gardner, Royal Taber, Jr. Wm. Gifford, Isaac Lee
Edward Anthony, Jr. Simon Lee, Nicholas Brown
Wm. Hunt is appointed Clerk for the year
ensuing.

It is concluded that the times & places of
holding this meeting for the year ensueing be as follow. viz.
at the 3 hour of the days of holding the Select Quarterly meetings
of Rhode Island & Sandwich Monthly Meetings, for Rhode Island,
on the 4th day preceding the 2d sixth day in the 8th mo. at Newport,
in the 10th mo. at Smithfield, 1st month at Swansey and 4th mo.
at East Greenwich, for Sandwich 1st day preceding the sixth
day before the last first day in the 11th 3d month and 7th month
and that there be two meetings at Nouraene on the first
day of the 9th & 11th mo. with[illegible] at the 10th hour.

Jeb Chaloner, John Casey, Samuel Cornell
David Buffum, Isaac Lawton, James Davis,
nominated at last meeting to have a manuscript prepared
for the meetings institution being a reply to a queries
of London & a circular enquiry & report
what they have in writing it and that it appeared to them to be

No
1797

to be a pertinent reply [illegible] [illegible]

the question & meeting proceeded to read the same, and having made some progress, refer the further disposition of it to our next meeting.

The Meeting took into consideration the business referd to it by the Yearly Meeting, inclosed in the following minutes viz. (Extracts from the Minutes of the Yearly Meeting for New England, held on Rhode Island from the 8th day of 6th mo to the 13th of same inclusive 1797.

The concern having spread in this Meeting on account of many of the Indian natives in this part of the country and a desire manifested to gain further information respecting the subject is referred to the consideration of our next Yearly Meeting, and in the mean time the Meeting for Sufferings is requested to make such enquiry and obtain such information respecting the State of that People and what the assistance is which may be proper for Friends to render them in that respect.

The matter referred from a former sitting of this Meeting relative to the Sufferings of some of our members having been brought under by the operation of the Militia Laws of the State of Rhode Island, was again brought before us, and deliberately considered. We refer the Subject to the meeting of Sufferings enjoining [illegible] to keep the matter in view & [illegible]

Copy Examined
Wm. Rotch Jun. Clerk to the
Meeting this year

And after deliberating on the same, the subjects are referred to our next meeting.

[illegible] Samuel Bowerman & Benjamin [illegible] are desired to wait on the Governor of State of Rhode Island & other officers [illegible] and endeavour to get information respecting the operation of the Militia Laws, and whether it is probable that the business will be [illegible] and report to this meeting concerning holding a special Meeting accordingly.

92 Attending for Sufferings and at Sansom's &c
Present Thos Scattergood Clerk pro tem 91 Friends Members viz
Benj.n Bakers Dan.l Anthony Jos.h Harris, Wm Gibbons. David
Anthony Thos Arnold, Wm Rhoades, Joseah Shove, Aza Smith,
Wm Portland, Jere.h Hacker, Jos.h Buffington, Peter
Brown, Tho.s Hazard, Jun.r Thos Scattergood, Samuel
Emlen & Wm Storey

Joseph Harris, Dan.l Anthony, Tho.s Hazard &
Wm Rhoades are appointed to compare the
Minutes of this meeting entered in the 6th mo. last, with
the originals, and to select such parts of the minutes of
Yearly Meeting for Sufferings as relate to the various
subjects of the Queries & appear to them may usefully
be communicated to the Meeting to be held in
Philadelphia & report to this meeting at four
o'clock this afternoon.

This Meeting adjourns to the 11th Inst to
meet at the 8th hour in the morning.

Meeting not by adjournment. Present
the same members with the exception of Jos.h Scattergood
& Job Chandler attended at this time.

The Meeting resumes the reading of
Wm Penn's reply to Sam.l Jennings letter referred from last Meeting
& the same, with the observations of the
Meeting thereon, directed to be entered in the Minutes.

Solomon Lightfoot appointed to wait on the Governor
of the State of Rhode Island to obtain information respecting
the militia Law of that State, report that they have attended to
their appointment, and did not find it necessary to apply
for a meeting of the Committee, as the business did not appear
to require it to come before the Legislature. The Militia
Law is referred to next Meeting
for consideration

Solomon Lightfoot appointed to prepare a minute
for the accommodation of Friends at the last Quarterly Meeting
held in this city, to be forwarded by the Stage, reports One shilling and
Seven pence Quarantine is imposed on Passengers
arrived in any Vessel or Boat. Thy also produce the

42 [illegible]

1797
9mo.

[illegible] Meeting [illegible]

Providence the 12th of 9mo 1797. Present 10 Members viz
[illegible] Casey, [illegible] Brown, [illegible] Howard, Sub Stan
[illegible] Solomon Jenckes, Edward Pan[illegible] Joseph
Harris, David Anthony, Dan Anthony & Wm Anthy.

Indians

The subject matter relative to the native Indians
[illegible] resumed and considered
[illegible] Meeting [illegible] Information respecting that People from Indians who were
desirous to [illegible] situation, were
[illegible] It is concluded to meet Meeting
In the meantime Friends are desired generally to
endeavour to gain a further acquaintance respecting
them, in order that the Meeting, may become
[illegible] with the Concern which the Yearly Meeting
has caused to devolve upon it.

The Meeting adjourns to the 3 hour
this afternoon.

[illegible] met by adjournment
Present the same members as in the morning.

Militia Law

The Militia Law of the State
of Rhode Island [illegible] before the Meeting, the
same having been [illegible] recommended in the
morning but many [illegible] the Question
disputing it at [illegible] further consideration of
the subject against the hour next meeting, and
[illegible] Friends [illegible] time and desired
them to [illegible] the Committee [illegible] to
attend [illegible] with the doings of this Meeting there-
to fore on the occasion.

The manner of disposing of the ma
[illegible] it will be [illegible] as a [illegible] Petition
of Shepards [illegible] coming under consideration, but this
[illegible] [illegible] to [illegible]

1794 The Committee appointed relative to the manuscript
[illegible] report that they have
[illegible] attention to the appointment but have not yet
completed the service — they are continued for that pur-
pose, and to report to next meeting.

The Meeting resumed the reading of the M.S.
[illegible] which was
[illegible]

At a Meeting, or Sufferings held
at Smithfield the 4th of 1st Month 1794. Present Thomas
[illegible], Jacob Mott, Daniel Anthony, Isaac Lawton,
Thomas Arnold, Josiah Shove, Thomas Howland, Thos
Wilbur, Wm Tinmouth, Wm Buffum, Dan Anthony, Moses
Brown, John [illegible], Joseph Harris, & Wm Almy.

The matter respecting the Indian Tribes
[illegible] but no way opening to labour in that concern, it is
again referred upon the same principles as at last Meeting.

The [illegible] additional Militia Law &c not having compleated
that service, the consideration of that subject is again
[illegible] Meeting.

This Meeting [illegible] other business
[illegible] Meeting.

At a Meeting for Sufferings held
at Smithfield the 3d of 2d Month 1794. Present
viz Moses Brown, Danl Anthony, Isa Smith, Benj.
Lebaron, Moses Bullington, Joseph Harris, Thomas
[illegible], Josiah Shove, Thos Wilbur, Wm Tinmouth.

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1792

Dan'l Anthony, Thos Arnold,
John Lasey. Sylvester Hunt,
Jos Harris & Wm Almy,

Our friends Rich'd Jourdan & Josiah
Hill from North Carolina attended also at this time

The situation of the Indian Tribes becom-
Indians ing again the subject of consideration, and some Friends
having given some further information respecting some of
them but the meeting not being possessed of sufficient knowl-
edge of their situation to qualify them to act in that weighty
affair, the matter was again referred to next meeting. In the mean
time Friends are desired to continue their care as way may
open.

Adjourned to the third hour this afternoon

afternoon met by adjournment. Present the
same members as in the morning.

Manuscript The manuscript written by Moses Brown
Moses Brown being again read and considered and some observations
made thereon. Sylvester Hunt, Tom. Lasey, Thomas
Arnold, Wm Almy & Jos. Harris are appointed a
Committee to review the manuscript, and consider
such observations as are given, or may be made, and
with the Author correct and prepare it for the
press, and report to next meeting.

Adjourned to the 6th hour to morrow.

5th day met by adjournment. Present the same
members as yesterday, excepting Jeremiah Thompson
who is absent to attend Yearly Meeting and our Friends Rich'd Jourdan
and Josiah Hill to attend meeting.

The Committee appointed, whose report of
proceedings of this meeting heretofore on the Militia Bill
since it was made a Law by the Legislature of the State of
Rhode Island together with the additional Act since
enacted, was read, and after reading the remonstr-

their this Meeting cause to be presented to said Legislature, while the Bill was pending before them, and considering it, do not see that this Meeting at present can usefully renew their application to that Body on this subject. The monthly Meetings are however requested to forward an account of their sufferings under said Act, in order that this Meeting may be able to represent the consequences resulting from the existance and operation of it to the said Legislature, whenever we may apply to apply for redress, and the Clerk is directed to forward a copy of this minute to each Monthly Meeting.

The Committee appointed to compare the transcripts of the two Manuscript written Journals lent to Geo. with the originals and to report the parts of this Manuscript Journal which relates to the same subject, made report, which is accepted as follows, viz

We have compared the Copies of the two Manuscripts written by Job Scott with the Originals according to our appointment and after full consideration of those parts of this Journal which were referred by this Meeting to us for a further consideration, have not found anything which we have thought best to present to the Meeting in order to be annexed to the transcripts above mentioned in their present State but have concluded to defer making any further consideration of same to a future period.

Signed
Wm Hartshorne
Jos Harris

Providence 11 mo 12th 1797

To the Meeting for Sufferings to be held at Newport

The following minutes from the Meeting for Sufferings held at Newport the 8th of 11th 1797

A Letter from Isaac Barnard dated Nine Partners 10th mo 29th 1797 informing this Meeting of the Decease of our antient Friend George Fox, that he was disposed to

46 the undertaking and desired the advice of this meeting
1797 the proposal in the consideration of the matter, and
being a little opened, pointed towards an encouragement
of the undertaking, and is referr'd to next meeting for
further deliberation.

At a Meeting for Sufferings in
10 mo. New York 9th mo. 12th 1797.

The Subject proposed by Isaac Collins
relative to his undertaking to print a new Edition of the
Journal of our Ancient Friend Rogers, claimed our
further consideration, which opened to view, a point of use-
fulness that would probably arise from the republication of that
work, and led to the propriety of communicating with our
Brethren of the Meetings for Sufferings in Philadelphia and
England on this Interesting subject, that we may know
their sentiments thereon. A Copy of this and the minute
made at this meeting on the subject, our Clerk is directed to
forward to their next meetings respectively.

Extracted from the minutes by
John Murray Jun Clerk

The subject of them is referred to next meeting.

The Committee appointed to procure the
printing of the Journal of our Ancient Friend Rogers, reported that they
have procured Proposals printed at New York, and that two
have agreed to take Hundreds, & six Dozen, but
that there has not been but about 1000 subscribed for
as yet. The meeting agrees to put in such places as
they may think proper, & that we consider
it right to have them by such as may be willing to furnish
themselves with them. And the Treasurer is desired to pay to
Isaac Collins or his Order the Sum of One Hundred & Fifty
Dollars on account of this Service, as soon as the same may
be in the Treasury, to be replaced out of the money to arise
from the Sale of the Books.

This meeting is adjourned to the
3rd mo. this afternoon.

1792 Afternoon met by adjournment present the same members as in the Morning except John Casey and Josiah Shone

The Sitting was spent in reading the third and last part of the Journal of our aged friend Patience Brayton

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at New-Bedford the 5th of 12th mo. 1791 present 14 members viz. Moses Brown, Wm. Rotch jun. Benj. Rich, Dan. Anthony, Thos. Arnold, Saml. Thurston, Josiah Harris, Thomas Shetch, Jno. Lazaro-Jos. Smith Brown, Jeremiah Austin Jun. David Anthony, Gideon Ming, & Wm. Almy.

The subject of Reprinting the Journal of our Venerable Friend George Fox, proposed by a Copy of a minute of the Meeting for Sufferings of New York, being again under consideration, It appeared to be the sense of this Meeting that altho' it would be agreeable to Friends here, in that work to be published yet we do not apprehend that any sufficient number would be subscribed for in this Quarterly Meeting to amount any encouragement to the Printer, and if the proposed publication should go forward, this Meeting would recommend the same to our several monthly meetings for Subscriptions

The Meeting resumed the reading of the remaining part of the Journal of our friend Patience Brayton dec'd and finished the 4th and last part of the 5 numbers

This Meeting is adjourned to the 9th hour to-morrow morning

Eighth day met by adjournment present the same ministers as yesterday, and Peter Bedford and Jethro Mitchel attended at this time.

The Meeting proceeded to read the manuscript Journal of our friend Patience Brayton and made corrections in pages 1 to 5 in.

Adjourned to the 5 hour this afternoon

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1797
12 mo.

Afternoon met by agreement. Present as forenoon members as in the morning.

The meeting continued the reading of the Journal of our Yearly Visitation and finished it.

The Committee appointed to prepare a Minute to accompany the manuscripts, written by Job Scott, which, after being read and some alterations made was approved, and the Clerk is directed to transcribe and sign the same on behalf of this meeting, and forward it to the Meeting for Sufferings at Philadelphia & New York which is as follows viz

From our Meeting for Sufferings for New England held at New Bedford the 5th of 12th mo. 1797.

Letter to Philada & N York on J Scott's Manuscripts

To the Meeting for Sufferings at Philadelphia & New York

Dear Friends We herewith forward for your inspection the Manuscripts written by our Friend Job Scott the on the Generation & Nature of Inspiration by which we hope will attract Friends close and solid attention, he thought best to send you copys thereof for your information in the State we find the manuscript in the Authors own writing, before we make any preparation of them for the Press, being desirous that Publications on those subjects should be moved in with suitable and becoming caution, you will please, please communicate your prospects and observations on the points, as well as respecting the time for their Publication.

Adjourned to the 9th hour to morrow morning.

Ninth day met by adjournment, Present the same members as yesterday.

The circumstances attending the Indian Tribes coming before this meeting, and from the information rec'd at this, and the preceding Meetings, Appears, that nearly all the Tribes of that People within this Yearly Meeting, are under the care, and their concerns superintended by the respective Legislatures within whose Jurisdiction they live, but that in some instances injustice & oppression are exercised upon them, and that there is a prospect of Friends being useful to those people, as well in exciting more attention to justice in those who have the care of them, and in other respects, nevertheless this meeting apprehends that things have not yet come to that issue as to render it best for Friends in this capacity to enter into Judicial measures on their account, otherwise than by again desiring Friends to be still attentive to their situation, and to collect such further information respecting the particulars therein mentioned as may be necessary for, and prepare the same to this meeting as much as may be in writing. The subject is referred to our next meeting.

The Journal of our Friends Patience Brayton, the reading of which was finished yesterday, was taken up by the Meeting, and from the present considerations upon it, and those much has appeared during the reading of the same to this meeting, that an abridgement of it may be made which will be useful to Friends. The subject is referred to next meeting.

At a meeting for Sufferings held at Sommerset the 10th of 1st mo. 1798 Present 15 members viz Benj. Rodman, Dan'l Wilbor, Jos. Austin, Wm. Wilbor, Jos. Wilbur, Jos. Harris, Isa. Smith, Wm. Rotch jun.

1798 Thomas Tibb, Wm Lewis, David Sutton, Jeremiah Southwick, Jeremiah Austin, Wm Sam Thurston, Isaac Shove, & Wm Almy.

The reference respecting the Indian Tribes being revived, and some further information respecting one of them viz the Marshpee Tribe, which is in confirmation of their circumstances as reported at last meeting. The subject is referred to the meeting preceding the next meeting in the 1st mo. in expectation of the continuance of Friends attention, who are desired then to report circumstantially respecting them.

Indians

The disposal of the manuscript Journal of Solomon Drayton dec'd coming before the meeting, Joseph Lewis, Thomas Arnold Wm Tibb, Wm Gifford & Wm Almy are appointed to endeavour to make an abridgement of it comfortable as near as may be to the proposals of this meeting which have been manifested from time to time as the Journal was read, and report their progress in the 1st mo. next, or sooner if ready.

J. D. D.

Ordered for Suppressings held at Nine Partners the 22d of 3 mo. 1798 Present 13 members viz Jeremiah Austin jun. Sylvester Hicks, Wm Gifford, Peter Pollard, Moses Thorn, Thos Arnold, Jeremiah Tallcot, Daniel Anthony Esling, Wm Almy, Jun. Wm Tibb, Jun. Thos Tibb & Wm Almy.

3 mo.

This Meeting received proposals from Isaac Collins of New York, for printing an annual pocket Journal which being read, It is recommended to the several Monthly Meetings to take the necessary care that Friends have an opportunity to subscribe for the same, and Isaac Collins appointed to receive the subscriptions and forward such numbers as may be wanted to the respective Subscribers as expressed in his conditions, and the Clerk is directed to insert a copy of this minute to each Monthly Meeting.

792 — A Meeting for Sufferings held at Cats Island the
6 mo. 11th & 12th of 6th Present 2 members viz. Moses Brown,
Dan'l Anthony, Asa Smith, Wm Thornton, Thomas Rowland,
Thos. Arnold, Wm. Jackson, Josiah Bates, Jun'r Jos.
Isaac Harris, Wm Bryan, Moses Brayton, & Wm Hunt.

Sam'l Thurston is appointed to make provision
for Friends at the time of the Yearly Meeting, and to
acquaint the Meeting when it is ascertained, and the
Treasurer is directed him or to his order One hundred dollars
to appropriated for that purpose, & Friends in general
throughout are desired to attend the Meeting.

A Meeting for Sufferings held at Portsmouth
6mo the 9th & 10th mo. 1798 Present 21 members viz. Moses Brown, John
Casey, Thomas Arnold, Asa Smith, Paul Rogers, Ebenezer Jeremiah
Austin, Wm Gifford, Js. Harris, Eb. Thacher, Elnathan Mitchell, Wm Thurston
Thomas Wilbur, Jun'r Josiah Shove, Dan Anthony, Benj. Seabourne, Peter Pollard
Silvester Hicks, Eph. Reed & Wm Athby.

Our Friends Emm Carrell from Philadelphia
& Dan'l Carrell & Silas Downing, Jun'r, Nathan Mosher & James Mott
from New York Government also attended at this time.

The subject respecting the Indian Natives referred
from the 5th month coming under consideration, when in addition
to the information heretofore received this meeting received an account
of the Marraganset Tribe which represents their situation
& conduct to be pretty much as is entered on the preceding minutes
adding that they are much exposed to the injury resulting from being
tempted to purchase and obtain undue quantities of Spirituous
liquors, as well as in other respects, — that their number appears to be
about One hundred & fifty, whose Lands are under but little im-
provement, and the product of that little much destroyed by their
inclosures being but poorly fenced.

52 This meeting rec.d Copies of Minutes from the Meeting for
1799 Sufferings of New York & Philadelphia on the subject of the
1 mo five manuscripts, written by our friend Job Scott dec.d and here-
-tofore sent them, which being deliberated on, Thomas Scattergood
Harris, Silas Thorn & Jeremiah Austin jun. are appointed to take
them into further consideration and propose what appears
to them the best way of disposing of the subject and report
with a copy of an answer to those communications which
are as follows.

Letter from Mag N York concerning Scott's Journal &c by J. Scott

"To the Meeting for Sufferings in New England

Dear Friends

The Copies of five Essays of our worthy friend Job Scott received forwarded by you for our perusal have rec.d a solid attention, and are evidently fraught with deep instruction, yet as some sentiments therein appear to us to require great caution, and an exchange of observations thereon, we are desirous of having a little of your freedom respecting its publication in its present State, and what material parts, if any, if you require a particularly guarded view or revisal, for we speak not now of literary errors, which perhaps they are considerably clear of, and on the hearing from you, we shall take that brotherly freedom, which is so beautifully preserved, and we trust mercifully among us, and give due attention thereto, and free exchange sentiments and observations with you, and in case you should be more easy in a conference by a Committee appointed by each of the three Meetings for Sufferings to meet together, with such remarks as those may respectively make thereon, and within which we are united as the most prudent and safest Step, we wish you free communicating such a proposal, that, tho it may be trying to some, who may be most remote from the place of meeting to give up the requisite time to the Journey, and deliberation, yet the greatness of the subject, for it is a trial one! and the acceptable manner in which it is treated claims great and weighty attention, it calls for counsel, for unbiassed counsel, and

and deep exercise, to decide on every part, that nothing may pass it, that may lead to stumble or behaviour that mind that shall be learnt a close, and honest examination of the foundation on which it is building.

Signed by direction & on behalf of a meeting for Sufferings held in New York the 10th of 4th Mo. 1798 by

John Murray Jun. Clk.

Meeting for Sufferings held in Philadelphia 26th 4th mo 1798

Extract from Minutes of Meeting for Sufferings

The manuscript Essays from New England having had further attention given them by the Committee, it is now offered as the sense thereof, that a publication of the work in question, at least in its present form does not appear with sufficient clearness to be of that seasonable or expedient, as likely to answer the pious design of the Author, which obtaining the concurrence of this meeting, the Clerk is directed to convey to Friends in New England the prospect now prevailing, by transmitting a copy a copy of this minute

Extract, John Drinker Clk.

The Committee appointed to prepare an Abridgment of Patience Brayton's Journal, inform that they have made some progress but not completed that service, it is continued under the same care, the report when accomplished.

Rufus Jones reports that agreeable to the directions of this meeting he has procured to be reprinted a number of the London general Epistle for the several meetings the cost is three dollars 33/100 which the treasurer is directed to pay to him, or his Order.

This Meeting is adjourned to the 26th of the Yearly Meeting.

1798 June

At a Meeting for Sufferings met at the close of the yearly Meeting 11th of 6 Mo. 1798.

present 28 Members viz: Isaac Lawton, Moses Brown, Benjamin Freeborn, Wm. Anthony, Moses Buffington, Jethro Mitchell, Peter Pollard, James Davis, Caleb Greene, John Casey, John Slocum, Josa Smith, Royal Southwick, Thomas Arnold, Jeremiah Austin Junr. Joseph Harris, Thomas Wiber Junr. Josiah Shove, Saml. Thurston, William Gifford, Richd. Mowry, Wm. Knowles, Thos. Rotch, Thos. Howland, Danl. Howland Junr. Wm. Hiny & Paul Wing

Wm. Hiny is appointed Clerk for the year ensuing

It is concluded that the time and places of holding this Meeting for the year ensuing be as at last year, that is, at the times and places of holding the quarterly meeting in Rhode Island and Sandwich as the same may be, excepting that which was held at Providence in the 9th Mo. to be held at New-Bedford

The Committee appointed to make provision for Friends at the time of the yearly Meeting, report the expence to be £56,,4,,9 - the Balance of £26,,4,,9 the Treasurer is directed to pay to their Order

Wm. Rotch, in behalf of the Committee appointed at last yearly meeting to make provision for Friends who might be engaged to travel on a religious account as is therein expressed, reported an acct. of those expenditures last year, which being approved, the balance of £ 8 2 9, the Treasurer is directed to pay to him or Order

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Portsmouth the 8th of the 8 Mo. 1798.

Present 21 Members viz.t

David Buffum, Moses Buffington, David Anthony, Thomas Arnold, Jeremiah Austin Junr. Wm. Buffum, Sylvester Wickes, James Davis, Joseph Harris, Richd. Mowry, Josiah Shove, Wm. Knowles, Sampson Sharman, Peter Pollard, Benj.a Freeborn, Sam.l Thurston, Moses Brown, Wm. Rotch Junr. Caleb Greene, Thos. Rotch, Thomas Howland & Wm. Almy — Our friends Silas Downing and James Mott also attended at this Time.

The Committee appointed on the communication from the Meeting for Sufferings at Philadelphia & New-York, not having compleated their service, that subject is refered to next Meeting, when they are desired to report.

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at New Bedford the 11th of 9 Mo. 1798, present 11 Members viz.t Isaac Lawton, James Davis, Thomas Hazard, Wm. Gifford, Thomas Rotch, Smith Brown, Jeremiah Austin Junr. Thomas Howland, Caleb Greene, Thomas Arnold, Wm. Anthony —

Our Friends Daniel Tarkinson and Tryp Mosher from the Nantucket Meeting of nine partners & the oblong on a religious visit in these parts, also attended at this time —

The

The Clerk of this Meeting being absent, Thomas
Wm. Arnold is appointed clerk pro tem. ——

Four of the Committee to consider some remarks
heretofore made in this Meeting upon Moses Brown's
Replication to Samuel Shepard, and with the
Author to prepare and correct it for the press,
made Report as follows, ——

We of the Committee appointed to consider
some remarks made by the Meeting for sufferings,
upon Moses Brown's Replication to Samuel Shepard,
and together with the Author, prepare & Correct
the same for the press. — Have attended to our
appointment and together with the Author have
made some corrections as well doctrinal as Literal,
and report it as our opinion, that it may be well
for the Meeting to approve its publication. ——

Providence 9th Mo. 4. 1793 — John Casey, Tho.s Arnold, Sylvester Wickes

To the Meeting for sufferings next to be held at New Bedford. — Wm. Almy ——

Which this Meeting accepts, and the Author
has the approbation of this Meeting to publish
the same accordingly ——

This Meeting Adjourns until the third hour
this afternoon. ——

Afternoon, met by adjournment ——

Present, the same Members as in the morning

1792 The Committee appointed to take into consideration the Copies of the Minute received from the Meetings for Sufferings of Philadelphia and New-York, relative to the Manuscripts of our deceased friend Job Scott forwarded to them, and to prepare & report an essay of an answer thereto, which with some amendment were approved of, and are as follows ——

To the Meeting for Sufferings at Philadelphia

Dear Friends, —— We received a Copy of the Minute of your Meeting respecting the Manuscripts of our deceased friend Job Scott, which has received the attention of this Meeting. — We may now inform that we have also received from the Meeting for Sufferings of New-York, a Copy of a Minute containing their prospect, with some observations on them, a Transcript whereof we now enclose for your consideration. —

As it was the object of this Meeting, in their communication, that whatever disposition might be made of those Writings, in which our religious testimony is nearly interested, should be unitedly & harmoniously agreed to; we have thought it proper to lay their prospect before your Meeting, and yours before them; that you and they may have an opportunity of considering each others; and if any further steps should appear to you necessary & useful to be taken, or if you should have any further propo

sition

or

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NY

Propositions, or more particular remarks to
make upon said Writings, or any part thereof,
as hinted by them, we shall be glad to receive the
same, and trust, be ready to attend to any
further measures that may be mutually
agreed upon, or proposed to us, in order to bring
the matters under our joint consideration, to a
result consistent with the requirings of Truth
and promotive of our religious Testimony —

Signed in behalf & by direction of the
Meeting for Sufferings for New-England, held
at New-Bedford the 12th. of the 9th. mo. 1798. —

Wm. Almy Clerk —

Letter to NY Mtg for Sufferings

To the Meeting for Sufferings at New-York —

Dear Friends — We have received a Copy of your Minute
respecting the two Manuscripts of our friend Jb Scott
deceased, and also a Copy of a minute from the Meeting
for Sufferings in Philadelphia on the same Subject,
by which you will perceive their prospect so far as
signified to us — In our submission of this piece
to your & their inspection, was with a view to collect
the Sentiments of our Brethren relative to the publica-
tion of a work, which we apprehended to be somewhat
interesting to our religious Testimony; and with the

expectation, that if it should meet your approbation
in the general, way might open to prepare it for the
press — We have forwarded a Copy of your minute
to the Meeting for Sufferings at Philadelphia &
here with enclose you a Copy of theirs, and shall
be pleased to receive any further communications
from your Meeting or theirs, and we trust be
ready to attend to any further measures, that may
be mutually agreed upon or proposed to us in order to
bring the matters under our joint consideration, to
a result consistent with the requirings of truth &
promotive of our religious Testimony ———

Signed in behalf & by direction of the Meeting
for Sufferings for New-England, held at New-Bedford
the 12th of 9th Mo 1798 —

William Almy

And the Clerk is directed to make out Transcripts
thereof, and Sign them in behalf of this Meeting,
and forward the Same to the respective Meetings —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at
Smithfield the 9th of the 10 Mo 1798, present 18
Members viz. Wm Buffum, Richard Mowry, Josiah
Rhove, Josp. Harris, Asa Smith, Thomas Rowland,
David Anthony, Royal Southwick, William Knowles

Thomas Wilber, David Buffum, Thomas Arnold
John Casey, Sylvester Wickes, Wm. Almy, Isaac Lawton
Saml. Thurston, Sampson Shearman

This Meeting received information, that several of the Members of our Society, have been lately committed to Prison on Account of non compliance with the Militia Law of the State of Rhode Island, and that one of them still remains a prisoner — the Subject is referred to next Meeting, and the Clerk is directed to procure and bring the Law aforesaid, for this Meetings inspection —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence the 13th of 11th Mo. 1798, present, 13 Members — viz

Asa Smith, Moses Brown, Jeremiah Austin Junr.
John Casey, [illegible], Richard Mowry, Wm. Wilber,
Josiah Shove, Royal Southwick, Joseph Harris, Smith
Brown, David Anthony, Thomas Howland
William Almy —

A Spelling Book being presented to this Meeting for inspection, compiled by [illegible], and if approved to be recommended to the several Monthly Meetings to be used in Schools —

Thomas Arnold, Moses Brown, Joseph Harris and Wm. Almy, are appointed to inspect the same & report [illegible] respecting it, to next Meeting —

The Meeting having spent some time in the consideration of other Subjects relative to the concerns of Society, & adjourn to the 2nd hour this afternoon.

Afternoon, & Met by adjournment

Present, the same Members as in the morning and Isaac Lawton and David Buffum also attended

The Subject of the Militia Law of the State of Rhode Island, coming under consideration, and after being deliberated on, is referred to next Meeting, then to be resumed

David Buffum, one of the yearly meeting's Committee for that purpose, reported an account of that had accrued under the Minute of the yearly Meeting, for making provision for Friends who travel on a religious account, amounting to £38.11, which being approved the Treasurer is directed to pay the same to him or his Order.

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at New-Bedford the 13 of 12 Mo 1798, present 13 Members Namely, David Buffum, Benjamin Freeborn, Thomas Hazard Junr. Wm. Gifford, Thos. Rotch, Samuel Thurston, Moses Buffington Jereh

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1778

Jeremiah & Dustin Junr & James Davis, Joseph Wing, Wm Anthony, Caleb Greene, and William Rotch Junr — The Clerk not being present Wm Rotch Junr is appointed Clerk for this time — The papers & Minutes of this Meeting, not being present, and no business appearing to engage Friends attention, We Adjourn to the Sixth hour this evening —

Evening, Met by Adjournment.

Present the Same Members as at the preceding Meeting, and Thomas Arnold and William Almy also attended —

Part of the Committee appointed to inspect the Minutes have compiled & laid the same before this Meeting, and informed that some attention has been paid to it, but that they are not ready to report at this time, the Same is continued under their care, they to report next a Meeting.

The Subject of the Militia Law of the State of Rhode Island coming under consideration, and being solidly deliberated on, Wm Rotch Junr Jeremiah Austin Junr Thomas Arnold, David Buffum, Caleb Greene, Wm Almy, Samuel Thurston, are appointed to pay further attention to that Subject and if way opens, prepare an address or Memorial to the Legislature of that State, Stating the peace

799 peaceable principle of our profession and Friendly concern on this occasion, and present the same to next Meeting

6th mo. 8 A Meeting for Sufferings, held at Dartmouth the 8th of 6th Mo. 1799. Present 28 Members viz. Isaac Lawton, Moses Brown, David Buffum, Jeremiah Austin Junr. Benjamin Freeborn, Sylvester Hicks, Wm. Buffum, James Davis, Thomas Hazard, Thomas Rotch, Caleb Greene, Moses Buffington, Thomas Wilbur, Richard Mowry, Joseph Harris, Wm. Rotch Junr. Thomas Rowland, Wm. Jeffers, Samuel Thurston, Royal Southwick, Asa Smith, Josiah Rowe & Wm. Almy.

The Committee appointed to inspect the Spelling Book, compiled by Asa Rhodes, made report, that they had inspected the same, and that it appeared to them a safe Book for Friends to use in their Schools, and in divers respects preferable to some others now used

The Committee appointed on the Subject of an Address to the Legislature of the State of Rhode Island, reported an Essay, which being read and some amendments proposed, is recommitted to the Committee to consider, and report to the Adjournment.

This Meeting Adjourns to the 9th hour to morrow morning.

64 10th day ~ Met by Adjournment ~
1799 ~ Present, the Same Members as yesterday ~

The Committee on the Subject of an Address to the Legislature of the State of Rhode Island, reported the Same, which being in part attended to, the Meeting adjourns to the 6th hour this Evening ~

Evening, Met by Adjournment ~
Present, the Same Members as in the Morning ~

The Meeting resumed the consideration of the Essay of an Address to the Legislature of the State of Rhode Island, and after examining it paragraphically, and making Some amendments to it, is approved, and the Clerk is directed to Sign the Same in behalf of this Meeting ~

Committee to wait on Legislature

Isaac Lawton, David Buffum, Thomas Arnold, Moses Brown, Wm. Rotch Junr. Sylvester Wickes, Thomas Hazard, Wm. Buffum & Thos Wilbor are appointed to present said Memorial to the Legislature aforesaid, at their next Sessions, and report to next Meeting and John Casey is desired to attend with them ~

[illegible]

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at East Greenwich 10th of 4th & 1st mo 1799, present 16 Members viz: John Lasey, Moses Brown, Isaac Lawton, Daniel Howland Junr. Thos. Howland, Samuel Thurston, Josiah Shove, Asa Smith, Wm. Knowles, Job Chaloner, Richard Howry, Royal Southwick, Sylvester Wickes, Joseph Harris, David Anthony & William Almy ——

Our Meeting which was to have been held at New-Bedford on the of last Month, was not held, there not being a sufficient number of Friends belonging to this Meeting who attended at that time, the weather being severe, and the travelling very difficult ——

A part of the Committee appointed to present the Address & Memorial to the Legislature of the State of Rhode Island, report, that five of them attended, & presented the Memorial, which was read & rec: by the Assembly & referred to their next Session for consideration, and that all proceedings against Friends in consequence of their non compliance with the requisitions of the Militia Law is suspended till that time ——

The Memorial is as follows ——

66

To the General Assembly of the State of Rhode Island.

Address of Legislature Rhode Island

& Respectfully shew.

The Representatives of the People called Quakers, in New England met in capacity of a Meeting for Sufferings at Newport, the 18th of 1st Mo 1799.

Retaining of our minds actuated, as we trust, by that pure christian benevolence which teaches us to live in peace with all men, and to demean ourselves as peaceable Citizens of the government under which it hath pleased Almighty God to place us, we are engaged to call your attention to our situation under the present Militia Law of this State; for, as we profess the christian faith, we believe ourselves bound by the precepts & example of Christ, who, distinguishing between the doctrine of retaliation, as promulgated in that day and the dispensation of peace & salvation, which he came to introduce, says "Ye have heard that it hath been said, thou shalt love thy neighbour & hate thine enemy; but I say unto you, love your enemies, bless them who curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them who despitefully use you, and persecute you that ye may be the children of your father who is in heaven." — Impressed with a sense of the purity and excellency of these principles, and with their exemplification in the authors most holy life, we feel ourselves restrained from participating in those measures which counteract their efficacious influence and extension. —

Principles, which if believed in and obeyed, would convert the present fields of blood into fields of offering, and enable mankind not only to deprecate such inveterate hostilities, but to live together in that harmony becoming the children of one universal parent.

Upon this ground arises our well known scruples against bearing arms, training, or aiding in any military preparations; and upon this Subject we addressed the

the Legislature in the 10th Mo. 1793, when the Militia bill was under consideration; notwithstanding which, and more than fifty years exemption from these requisitions, we are affected to find that a law now exists which invades our religious liberty, and under its operation, or that which has immediately preceded it, no less than various distraints have been made upon our property, but divers of our members have been imprisoned, and their confinement attended with circumstances of

We feel ourselves justified on the present occasion to remind you, that religious liberty, or a perfect freedom to serve, worship and obey God, appeared so precious in the view of our forefathers, the first settlers of this country, that they chose to forsake the cultivated fields of their ancestors, encounter the dangers of the sea, and seek an asylum from persecution in this then uncultivated wilderness. — Persecution for conscience sake is one and the same thing the world over, at all times, and in all places, whether inflicted for non-conformity to this, or that creed which the sufferer cannot subscribe consistent with his tender scruples in his own mind, or for his obedience to some discoveries of the divine will, restraining him from learning war, and from qualifying himself, in what ever instance, to imbrue his hands in another's blood: a vestige though on a national occasion, which we humbly and religiously believe, not only oppugns the true spirit of christianity, but is derogatory to the true dignity of the human mind; its constituted powers appearing designed by the benevolent author of our existence, to qualify, and point to, a very different mode of adjusting every species of controversy between man and his fellow

— many who readily give their assent to the superiour excellency of those principles, already that they ought not to be adopted as a rule of our practice, because there is not a general conformity among men to the doctrine which they teach; but as a nation is not born in a day, nor a revolution in the mind, in favour of the humbling, benign precepts of the gospel an instantaneous work; but more especially, as no man can redeem his brother, or give to God a ransom for his soul, we believe that the conduct of others will be found unsafe for any to rely upon, in departing from the revealed will of the Lord their God. — "We are accountable to him as individuals, and according to our obedience to his divine light and truth, will be the distribution of his justice — come ye blessed, or depart ye cursed." ——

It is in proportion to our faithfulness to the discoveries of gospel light, that we are into the purity & spirituality of this dispensation, which breathes peace on earth & good will to men, — that we become convinced of God's omnipotency, and dare not make flesh our arm, and be engaged to put our trust in the Lord, and to seek protection under the shadow of his almighty wings — It is thus that we come in degree to experience that state figuratively described by the prophet, of knowing the mountain of the Lord's house to be established upon the top of every mountain, where none can hurt nor destroy, but where swords are beat into plough-shares, and spears into pruning-hooks, and we learned from henceforth war any more: —

— We must not leave out that which our [illegible] are generally known and [illegible]

conformity to whatever government we have lived, nor since we were a religious Society, nor have those governments been wanting to acknowledge the truth of our religious scruples, and in many instances to make provision for our relief. We therefore cannot believe, that in this enlightened age, when religious liberty is so well understood, & when divers States in the union have made provision for its full enjoyment, and in particular exempted our Society with some others, from military requisitions, that the State of Rhode Island long known for the clemency of its government, and especially for its regard to the rights of conscience, will, after due consideration, from the Idea that time may have a policy, or from any other cause, suffer a law to remain in their code which both opposes its former wise & liberal administration, and subjects many of its industrious, peaceable citizens to fine and imprisonment, on account of their faithful adherence to the Law of their God.

Indeed the very admission of a religious scruple, & the belief of divine superintendency, lays a necessity on the powers admitting them, to leave those under their jurisdiction, unmolested in the peaceable conformity to what it enjoins, otherwise are they not opposing their power to the power of the highest, and endeavouring to counteract the purposes of the divine will.

It is true that the present militia law does exempt from personal service such members of our Society as shall produce a certificate, and pay three dollars annually, in lieu of such service; but it appears to us, that solid reflection must convince every con-

considerate mind, that the principle of commutation is rendered entirely inadmissible, if a conscientious scruple is admitted. Yet, though the reality of a religious restraint, on account of bearing arms, is admitted in the act aforesaid, still no provision is made, which a citizen sincerely under such impressions, can avail himself of, to obtain an exemption from the military duties therein imposed.

From these considerations, your memorialists have believed themselves bound in religious duty to represent, that not only divers of our members, and several others of tender conscience, have been sufferers, either in person or property, since the existence and operation of the present militia system, but that all of us, as a religious society, and others under religious scruples, on this account of the several descriptions defined in that act, are still exposed to further and continued sufferings, contrary to our their religious rights, and subversive in its tendency, as we apprehend, of that allegiance which every man most sacredly owes to his Maker.

We therefore respectfully solicit that such parts of the law aforesaid as subjects us, and others under similar circumstances, to suffering for non-compliance with its requisitions, may be repealed, or such other provision made for our relief as you in wisdom may devise, to leave us in the free exercise of those rights pertaining to conscience, which being derived immediately from God, ought, from their nature, to be kept free and independent of human controul.

Signed by Order & in behalf of the Meeting aforesaid

Wm. Jinny Clerk

The printed general Epistle from our Friends & Brethren of the Yearly Meeting of London for 1799 was read in this Meeting to satisfaction & Moses Brown is desired to procure 200 Copies printed and send to the several Monthly Meetings and report the expence thereof to next Meeting.

Communication from the Meeting for Sufferings at Philadelphia & New York relative to the Manuscripts written by our friend Job Scott, [illegible] and heretofore recorded to those Meetings, were received and read in this Meeting & are as follow

To the Meeting for Sufferings in New England.

Dear Friends — We have rec your communication of the 10th of 9th Mo. relative to the Manuscripts of our friend Job Scott, We may inform you, the Subject has recently engaged our attention, and we are induced to favour an attempt being made to prepare a collection therefrom for publication — and as the revisal & examination of the work may be somewhat arduous, in order to a judicious selection, we feel disposed, should you incline to undertake it) to afford you a brotherly aid therein — and it would be very agreeable if our friends of the Meeting for Sufferings in Philad. would also unite in the examination thereof —

Signed by direction and on behalf of the Meeting for Sufferings held in New York the 8 day of the 10th Mo. 1799 — by John Murray jun.

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Letter From Philadel on Job Scott Essays

To the Meeting for Sufferings for New England

Dear Friends Your Epistle of the 11th of 9th Mo. last with a copy of one from Friends at New York to your Meeting, have been received and read in this Meeting, and after Solid attention given to the Subject, and the sentiments of Friends expressed, we could not (in our present circumstances) with Satisfactory clearness, to join with the proposal of a conference as suggested by our Friends at New York — We have no doubt but that our friend Job Scott was impressed with an apprehension of duty to write & prepare those Essays with the Submission to the judgment of his friends — We think the same Subject might have been more properly and safely treated upon by some of our ancient Friends — and although we do not wish or intend improperly to interfere in your particular concerns, yet upon reading over the Subject again, the same prospect remains which we have heretofore communicated to you, we have nothing new or different to propose — With the Salutations of love we remain your affectionate Friends —

Signed on behalf and by direction of our Meeting for Sufferings held in Philad.a the 13th of the 2nd Mo. 1799

John Drinker Clk

Samuel Thurston & Job Chalkley are appointed to make provision for Friends at the next yearly Meeting and report the expence thereof when ascertained, and the yearly Meeting's Treasurer is hereby directed to advance to them or their Order $100 as soon as the same may be in the Treasury and David Buffum, Benjamin Freeborn & Sampson Shearman are desired to lend their assistance to the Friends appointed

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Dartmouth the 15th of 11th mo. 1799 Present 31 members Namely Moses Brown, James Davis, Samuel Smith, Isaac Lawton, John Slocum, Stephen Hathaway, Jeremiah Briggs, Moses Buffington, Samuel Eddy, Silas Sayles, John Wilcox, Stephen Arnold, Jeremiah Briggs, Smith Brown, David Anthony, Peleg Shove, Thomas Shove, Sam. Collins, Wm. Rotch, Benjamin Southwick, Wm. Rodman, Wm. Gifford, Thomas Foster, Richard Mott, Wm. Rotch, Sam. Easton, Job Chalkley, Wm. Anthony, Simpson Shearman, Wm. Almy

The Committee appointed

The Committee appointed

1799

again attending said Legislature, who resumed the consideration of the several matters stated in their memorial and have given instructions subject to the further consideration of them next Session, and against such time to procure a return of the militia Laws and report thereon that they have appointed a Committee to confer with the Committee from this meeting and have directed them to consider whether some alteration may not be made to relieve Friends, and to report to the next session.

Thos Brown informs that since his appointment to have the Care of Friends Burial Ground at Rhode Island he has received a Letter from Friends in England, and has distributed them to the monthly meetings.

This Meeting is adjourned to the close of the yearly Meeting.

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Newport the 4th of 6 mo 1799, present 28 Members

Viz. Thos Brown, Wm Burling, Jethro Mitchel, Wm Anthony, Richard Berry, John Slater, Jon.a Freeborn, Daniel Coleman, Isaac Shove, James Davis, Wm Gifford, Jonas Anthony, Jos Chalkley, Thos Arnold, Sylvester Hicks, Jeremiah Austin, Jun.r Isaac Lawton, Wm Knowles, Peter Pearce, Jun.r Hunter, Wm Hazard, Thomas Rotch, Paul Rogers, Thos Miller, Samuel Thurston, Daniel Anthony, Wm Rotch & Wm Rotch Jun.r

It is concluded that the Quarterly Meeting for the year ensuing be as follows viz.

On the Day of the Select quarterly Meeting at Portsmouth at Palmyra at the 3d hour in the afternoon, and at Providence on the 2nd third days of the 11th 3rd & 5th Months, at the 10th hour —

Wm. Almy is appointed Clerk for the year ensuing —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Portsmouth the 8th of the 8th Mo. 1799 — present 21 Members viz.

Moses Brown, David Buffum, James Davis, Simeon Shearman, Wm. Anthony, Richd. Mowry, Obl. Hazard, Joseph Harris, Thos. Miller Wm. Knowles, Jeremiah Whipple, Moses Buffington, Benjn. Reeborn, Thos. Hazard, Sylvester Wicks, Thos. Howland, Jno. Arnold, William Almy, Isaiah Shove, Isaac Lawton & Saml. Thurston —

An abridgement of the Journal of our friend Paliney Brayton Deceased, being presented to this Meeting, but appearing not to have had the inspection of the whole Committee they are desired to inspect it and report to next Meeting —

This Meeting is adjourned to the 3d hour on the Day of the Select quarterly meeting at Smithfield the 10th Month —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Smithfield the 9th of 10th Mo. 1799, present — 14 Members viz. Simeon Shearman, Joseph Harris, Moses Buffington, Sylvester Wicks, Richd. Mowry, Isaiah Shove, Saml. Thurston, David Anthony, Jeremiah Smith, Wm. Buffum, Thomas Howland, Thos. Hazard & Wm. Almy —

The Committee appointed to endeavour to make a Selection from the Journal of our friend Paliney Brayton Deceased, inform that they have not completed that service; the same is therefore continued under their care & they to report to next meeting —

The circumstances of the Indian Tribes within this yearly meeting, having been recommitted by the yearly meeting to the care of this meeting — & the following circumstance and minute having been minuted at our last meeting, viz.d

Chief John Hammer an Indian

John Hammer, one of the native Indians of the Stockbridge Tribe, having attended at the close of our last meeting, and said before the members then present a prospect which he and some others of that Tribe had of removing to Oneida, where provision of land is made for them — & that Wm. Knowles and some other being sent to enquire into their circumstances & situation, and report to this meeting — and him having reported that the families who propose removing, are of reputable character, and that the said John Hammer is now a prisoner for Debt, which was from his purchasing a Store, which he lost by death — the cost of which debt being paid viz.d eleven dollars he might be liberated and return to his Family —

Committee on the subject of Indians.

Whereupon Wm. Knowles and Thomas Howland are appointed to attend that place for his liberation, and to make an estimate of the Expence of the Removal of those Families and report to our next Meeting, when a Subscription may be opened for Friends liberality —

The Committee make the following report viz.d

Agreeable to appointment: We have had an opportunity with most of the heads of the Indian families who are about to remove to the Oneida, and find that one of them has sufficiency to furnish himself with a Team to carry his goods & family. The others will not have much or anything left when their debts are paid, except what few old furniture they will want to carry with them, which with such of their families as we may want to use, make about thirty hundred weight, and for one

eighty Dollars. ——— Which being considered is accepted, and Friends are desired to Subscribe in their freedom, to raise two hundred dollars for the purposes therein expressed, and forward the same to our Meeting in the first month next ——— And if Friends Subscription exceed the sum aforesaid it will be reserved and appropriated to the like benevolent purposes towards the Indian natives. ———

And the Clerk is desired to furnish a Copy of this minute to each Monthly Meeting. ———

Extracted from the Minutes of a Meeting for Sufferings held at Smithfield the 4th of 11th Mo. 1799. ———

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence the 12th of 11th Mo. 1799, present 7 Members viz. Moses Brown, Isaac Lawton, Sylvester Hicks, Joseph Harris, Tho. Arnold Jr. Obadiah Brayton & Wm. Anthony, Wm. Bufsum, Tho. Howland, Smith Brown, Isaac Smith, Josiah Rowe, Thomas Arnold Rich. Mowry, Caleb Greene, Jeremiah Austin Jun. & John Lawton. —

The Committee appointed to visit the meeting from the Yearly Meeting's Committee have informed that they are not ready to visit any more Meeting but have their Service committed to their care and are desired to report to our next Meeting. —

On Motion & Resolved that this Meeting do consider and agree to the Minute relating to the Yearly Meeting's Committee taken at our last Meeting & that the Clerk make a Copy thereof & transmit the same to each Monthly Meeting within this Quarter.

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1800

This Meeting is adjourned to the 3rd hour on the
day of the Select quarterly Meeting next to be
held at Somerset, in the first Month next

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Somerset
the 5th of 1st Mo. 1800, present 17 Members viz.
Moses Brown, Wm. Anthony, Benj.n Trevett, Tho.s
[illegible], Sam.l Ellis, Richard Mowry, Thos.
Bufington, Caleb Greene, Jeremiah Austin Jun.r
Wm. Gifford, Sampson Shearman, Joseph Harris, Sam.l
Thurston, Tho.s Hazard Jun.r Wm. Knowles, Joseph Shove,
Sylvester Wickes, & Ja.s Smith & Wm. Hiny.

Respecting annuity of Indians

This Meeting is informed that the Monthly
Meeting of [illegible] in the Line of this Meeting
for the purpose of visiting the Families of the Indian
Natives of the Narragansett Tribe in removing
to the Oneida [illegible] have [illegible] and
$50 - South-Kingston $[illegible], Greenwich $5. Provi-
dence $34.35/100 Smithfield $[illegible] which with what
this Meeting apprehends they may reasonably an-
ticipate will be forwarded in Monthly
Meetings appears likely to be sufficient for the
purposes had in view by its being raised — This
Meeting Appoints Wm. Knowles & Thomas Wilbor
to receive the same with what may come to
their hands by the Provision hereafter made
and appropriate is provided the sum does not exceed
$200, for the purposes of assisting those people as
has been heretofore [illegible] to think fit.
in the 3rd & 4th recd and print [illegible]
sum

from Monthly Meetings who have not reported are desired to request their respective Meetings to forward their Collections to Friends aforesaid and an Account to our next Meeting.

The Committee in the Case of Patience Brayton's Journal, not having had an opportunity of unitedly considering and reporting upon that Subject, it is again referred to next they then to report.

The printed Epistle from the last yearly Meeting in London directed to the quarterly and Monthly meetings in great Britain & Ireland, being read in this meeting and appearing likely to be of the Service intended is appointed to have it reprinted to have the same done in a sufficient Number for the several Meetings and distribute the same, and report the expence when accomplished.

3 mo. At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence the 11th of 3rd mo. 1800 present 17 Members viz. Moses Brown, David Buffum, Jun., Paris Jones Lawton, Johnjosey, Wm. Buffum, Thos. Arnold Smith Austin Jun., David Anthony, Jun., Micah Green Greene, Wm. Yates Jun. Joseph Harris, Thos. Potter, Thos. Howland, Josiah Howe & Wm. Almy.

The Committee appointed to make the selection from the Journal of our friend Patience Brayton &c. reported an abridgement of her Journey to the Southern States, with which her Journal commences. The Meeting proceeded to the Selection reported & adjourned to the 3rd hour this afternoon.

Afternoon. Met by Adjournment.

Present, the same Members as in the morning.

The Committee to make a Election from the Journal of our Friend Patience Brayton Deceased, further reported an abridgment of her Journey to Europe which being read, and the whole Matter considered, it appearing that further correction and revision will render the more useful publication of the Same the Committee with the addition of Isaac Lawton and Moses Brown are desired to revise the Selection, and make such further amendments to prepare it for publication in the way pointed out as may appear necessary, and report the Same to this Meeting in the 5th Month next

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence the 13th of 5th Mo 1800. Present the Members viz.t Moses Brown, Sylvester Wickes, Wm Rotch Jun.r Tho.s Arnold Jun.r Tho.s Rotch, Caleb Greene, Tho.s Howard Tho.s Arnold, Jeremiah Austin Jun.r John Casey, Smith Brown, Richard Mowry, David Anthony & Wm Almy

This meeting received a Minute from the monthly Meeting at Uxbridge laying before this Meeting, a late Act of the Legislature of Massachusetts on the Subject of Military Traditions, which being deliberated on, is referred for further consideration, to be resumed this afternoon

This Meeting is adjourned to the 4th hour this afternoon

Afternoon met by Adjournment

Present the Same Members as in the Morning

The Subject respecting the Militia Law of the State of Massachusetts being resumed and solidly considered, it appeared to be the mind of the Meeting, that Friends may as far as respects their own Members, give Certificates agreably to the Law aforesaid and a Mem

Nicholas Brown & Wm Rotch Jun.r Jeremiah Sullivan
are appointed to prepare an Essay of communication
to the Monthly Meetings expressive of the concern
which has been manifested in this Meeting in
regard to Friends conduct on this occasion & report
to morrow ——

This Meeting is adjourned to the 9th hour
to morrow morning ——

14th day met by adjournment

Present the same Members as yesterday — ex-
cepting Sylvester Hicks, for whose absence a satisfactory
reason has been assigned ——

The Committee appointed yesterday, pre-
sented an Essay, which being read & amended is as
follows — And the same is directed to be forwarded
to the several Monthly Meetings — viz.

From our Meeting for Sufferings, held at
Providence, for New England, the 13th & 14th of 5 Month,
1800.

To the Monthly Meetings of Friends
in the State of Massachusetts, and others who have Mem-
bers in that State. — [New acknowledgment of the receipt of Signatures]

The additional act of the State of Massachusetts to
the Militia Law, having been laid before this Meeting,
and considered, and this Meeting being well satisfied
of the favourable intentions of that government to
exempt our Society from military duty, though the act in some
respects may not wholly correspond with the prospect
of Friends — a concern hath arisen in this Meeting, that
the act, so it respects our members, be complied with, with
that care and caution becoming us, as a people.

11

82
1800

Advises
assisting
Certificates
to exempt
from Militia

We therefore recommend to our Monthly Meetings,
to be careful in their appointments of such in whom
confidence appears to be especially placed by the Law, and
a concern is also prevalent amongst us, that such as are
on their appointments, and indeed all who are the objects
of the Law, that they may remedy seek after, centre to,
and abide under the spirit of the power of peace in
themselves; that we, as a people, may be preserved faithful
to this holy profession: For if any of our members should
be found in a line of conduct which might invalidate
the Certificate which the law requires, great reproach
must consequently fall on Friends, and the cause of
truth itself suffer. We entreat, therefore, dear Friends,
that no Certificate be given to any of our members, of
whom the overseers may not be satisfied that
they are principled with us against wars & fightings,
agreeably to the certificate required.

And on adverting to the concern of this Meeting
in the year 1777, at a time of deep trial and tribulation,
during the late war in this country, when exemptions
from military requisitions were obtained from the
legislature of Rhode Island, upon certificates being
produced of the right of membership, and feeling the
like concern at this time, we think it may be useful
to revive it, viz: "Let it be remembered, Friends,
" that if we give certificates to any whose life & conversation
" do not well answer to our profession, we must bear the
" reproach and shall mar our reputation as a Society
" therefore, dear Friends, let there be great care to inspect
" the conduct of such as require certificates, and also their
" principle respecting war; and we desire that none
" may be granted to any others, but such who are of
" sober lives and conversation, and who are clear in

against.
" in our ancient testimonies against Wars and fightings,
" and that we may, with renewed engagement, attend
" to and exercise the discipline established amongst
" us, in the same wisdom that was the source thereof
" by which wrong things may be swept out of the
" camp, and we become a clean people, to the prais-
" of him that hath called us, and our own unspeak-
" able advantage." ——

Signed in and on Behalf of our
Meeting aforesaid,

Wm. Almy Clerk ——

Samuel Thurston, David Buffum and Jeremiah
Austin Jun^r are desired to make provision for Friends
at the ensuing yearly meeting at Newport, and
the Treasurer is directed to advance one hundred
Dollars for that purpose and when the Service is
accomplished report the expence thereof to this
Meeting, and such Friends as they may call on
for assistance, are desired to assist them as far as
they can ——

making provision for
Thomas Rotch one of the yearly
Meetings Committee for Friends who might travel
on a religious account agreably to said conclusion
presented an account of $12^{r}, 66$ which being approved
the Treasurer is directed to pay the same ——

The Committee appointed to complete the Selection
from Patience Brayton's Journal, inform that they
have made a further Selection, and that the same
is transcribed, but not yet quite completed for the press,
they are desired to complete it and report to this or Meeting.

William Almy reports, that he has procured the London printed Epistle reprinted, the cost of which is Six Dollars, which the Treasurer is directed to pay ——

Dartmouth Monthly Meeting hath sent Thirteen dollars to assist the Indian Natives of the Narragansett Tribe, as heretofore contemplated and provided for ——

This Meeting adjourns to the 3rd hour in the afternoon, on the day of the select yearly Meeting at Portsmouth ——

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Portsmouth the [illegible] day of the 8th month 1788

[illegible] members [illegible] James Davis [illegible] Jno Slocum, Jr. [illegible] Peleg Peckham, Jno Sherman, Jno Sherman, Jr. [illegible] Jno Wilbur, Jno Lapham, Jno Lapham, Jr. [illegible] Jno Lee, Jno Lee, Jr. [illegible] Jno Wilbur, Jno Wilbur, Jr. [illegible] Jno Wilbur, 3d, Jno Wilbur, 4th, Jno Wilbur, 5th, Jno Wilbur, 6th, Jno Wilbur, 7th, Jno Wilbur, 8th, Jno Wilbur, 9th, Jno Wilbur, 10th, Jno Wilbur, 11th, Jno Wilbur, 12th, Jno Wilbur, 13th, Jno Wilbur, 14th, Jno Wilbur, 15th, Jno Wilbur, 16th, Jno Wilbur, 17th, Jno Wilbur, 18th, Jno Wilbur, 19th, Jno Wilbur, 20th, Jno Wilbur, 21st, Jno Wilbur, 22nd, Jno Wilbur, 23rd, Jno Wilbur, 24th, Jno Wilbur, 25th, Jno Wilbur, 26th, Jno Wilbur, 27th, Jno Wilbur, 28th, Jno Wilbur, 29th, Jno Wilbur, 30th, Jno Wilbur, 31st, Jno Wilbur, 32nd, Jno Wilbur, 33rd, Jno Wilbur, 34th, Jno Wilbur, 35th, Jno Wilbur, 36th, Jno Wilbur, 37th, Jno Wilbur, 38th, Jno Wilbur, 39th, Jno Wilbur, 40th, Jno Wilbur, 41st, Jno Wilbur, 42nd, Jno Wilbur, 43rd, Jno 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of accepting Trusts from Apprentices &c & to collect Data on account of Negroes &c which was omitted in consequence of a Difference between Sandwich & Portsmouth but as the Yearly Meeting is near at hand, the consideration thereof is referred to that Meeting.

Salem Monthly Meeting informs that they have sent fourteen dollars to the Treasurers of the Immigration Society & Boston Monthly Meeting two dollars for the same purpose.

The Clerk is directed to keep the Yearly Meeting the ensuing Week for the year 1801.

This Meeting is adjourned to the Week of the Yearly Meeting.

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Newport the 19th of 6th Mo. 1800. present the same Members as at the last Meeting excepting Jethro Mitchell, & Daniel Howland Junr & Moses Buffington & David Buffum also attended at this time.

William Almy is appointed Clerk for the year ensuing.

It is concluded that the times & places of holding this Meeting for the year ensuing be as follows viz.t On the day of the Select quarterly meeting of Rhode Island and Sandwich viz.t at Portsmouth in the 8th Mo. at Smithfield in the 10th Mo. at New Bedford in the 12th Mo. at Swanzey in the 1st Mo. & at Greenwich in the 4th Mo. at the 3rd hour in the afternoon, and on the days the Select yearly meeting at Portsmouth at the same hour.

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The Committee appointed to make provision for Friends at the time of the yearly meeting report that they have done it; the expence of which is £67.5.5 the Balance of £3.5.5 the Treasurer is directed to pay to their Order.

The Situation of Friends in some parts of the State of Massachusetts, on account of the Law of that State relative to ministerial Taxes, so called being recommitted to the care of this Meeting from the yearly meeting by the following Minute viz.

Minute from the Meeting respecting Ministerial Taxes —

The Committee to whom was committed the reference respecting Friends at Bolton, in the State of Massachusetts referred to this Meeting by the Meeting for Sufferings, report, that the affecting Subject of the imprisonment of one Friend, of which they inform this meeting, they have received authentic information, and the Sufferings of others in the County of Worcester in the State aforesaid, for their not paying Taxes for the support of a hireling Ministry, has been considered by the Committee, and that it is their judgment that it will be best that the Same be recommended to the care and attention of the Meeting for Sufferings; — and that they cause Such application to be made to the Superiour Court, or to the State Legislature or both, as may appear most likely to obtain relief — or use Such other means as may appear best, which being approved, is thus disposed of.

They also propose that the application for advice from Falmouth quarter, respecting a late Law of the State of Massachusetts, making provision for Friends exemption from Military requisitions on producing a Certificate agreeable to the form prescribed in Said Act, be also referred to further consideration of the Meeting for Sufferings who is also approved, and the Same is referred to them accordingly —

The Meeting for Sufferings are desired to take into their consideration the Subject of Friends proportion of the public Wages for the Support of Schools, and to take such measures for obtaining the same for the Support of Friends Schools, as way may open and they may think best; and that any Monthly meeting, who may see the way clear, may, in the mean time be at liberty to apply to the Authority of the Town or Towns wherein their members live, for the same

The Meeting for Sufferings are desired to send up to this Meeting next year an account of the State of the yearly meetings School-Funds

Whereupon we appoint Moses Brown, Richard Mowry, William Buffum, Asa Smith to make the necessary inspection into the Situation of the Friend committee to Gaol and others who are or may be Subjected to Sufferings on that account, and to use such endeavours for Friends relief, as way may open consistent with wisdom and prudence, and report to this meeting in the 8th Month next

At a meeting for Sufferings held at Portsmouth the 6th of 8th Mo. 1800, present 17 Members

The Committee appointed to make inspection into, & endeavour for the relief of Friends in the Massachusetts on account of Priests Wages, not being ready to report, though one of them informs that the friend who was imprisoned is releafed, that matter is continued under their care, they to make report to next meeting

Swanzey Monthly Meeting has forwarded $6 10/100 for the assistance of the Narragansett Indians, and handed the same to the Committee

The Committee in the case of Ruth Brayton's Journal report, that they have collected the Materials from which they have continued the Journal of her Visit to Europe until her return home, which with the Testimony of Yearly & Monthly & Meeting, was read in this Meeting and some Amendments proposed — The Committee are desired to compleat the same, and the Service heretofore assigned them, and report to this meeting when accomplished

In consequence of the yearly Meetings having requested that a Statement of the yearly Meetings School-Funds be reported to next yearly Meeting; Joseph Harris & Sylvester Wickes are appointed to settle the Accounts of the Treasurer of the yearly Meetings School and report a Statement of the Funds to our next Meeting —

Report of Committee on Suffering Indians

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Smithfield the 8th of 10th Mo. 1830, present 19 Members —

Several of the Committee appointed to inspect into the situation of Friends in some parts of the State of Massachusetts respecting their Sufferings on account of Priests Wages, inform that they have paid some attention to that Service, and confirm the information given at last meeting, respecting the release of the Friend who was imprisoned, and it appearing to this Meeting that usefulness will arise from the further labours of that Committee, they are continued to use their endeavours as way may open, both in advising Friends who appear likely to become Sufferers on that account, as well as endeavouring to avert that Suffering —

The Committee appointed to settle the Accounts of the Treasurer of the yearly Meeting School, not being ready to report, they are continued and desired to report to next Meeting —

The printed general Epistle from our Friends and Brethren held in London the present year, was read in this Meeting to our comfort and Satisfaction —

1800 At a Meeting for Sufferings held at new Bedford the 11th of 12 Mo. 1800, present 15 Members.

The Committee to settle the Acct of the Treasurer of the yearly meetings School, not being present, nor any report from them, that matter is continued to next Meeting.

This Meeting after deliberating on divers subjects under under the care of the Meeting adjourn to the 4th hour, to morrow evening.

12th day Met by adjournment, present the same Members as yesterday excepting one.

Committee on Brayton's Journal

The Committee appointed to prepare a Selection from the Journal of our friend Patience Brayton deceased reported a Selection. Whereupon we appoint Caleb Greene, William Rotch Junr & to superintend the printing of the same, and report to next meeting what will probably be the expence attending the publication.

Doctrinal Subjects

A friend having transcribed such parts of the Manuscript Journal of our friend Job Scott deceased, as relates to some doctrinal subjects, which when the other parts of his Journal were published, was concluded to be made the Subject of after consideration, and presented the Transcript to this Meeting the disposal of which is referred to the consideration of our next Meeting.

Wm Rotch Junr is appointed to procure the London General Epistle reprinted with a sufficient number for the meetings in this yearly meeting, and distribute them and report the expence to the next [illegible] Meeting.

90 At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Somerset
1801 the 7th of 1st Mo. 1801, present 15 Members

The Committee appointed to Settle the Accts. of the Treasurer of the yearly meeting's School Funds, not having attended to that service, since last Meeting they are continued to attend to it, and report to next meeting

Friends at Bolton Two of the Committee appointed to advise and use their endeavours, in the case of Sufferings on account of Priests wages, in a part of the State of Massachusetts viz. in the Monthly Meeting of Bolton and thereabout, inform that Friends continue to be Sufferers on that account, and presented a list of their Sufferings, the Subject is referred to next meeting under the care of said Committee

Wm Rotch Jun. reports that he has procured the London Epistle reprinted, the Cost of which is five dollars which the Treasurer is directed to pay to him or Order

The Committee appointed to ascertain and report the Cost of printing the Selection from the Journal of our friend Patience Brayton deceased report that Journal B. can be 1000 printed on good paper, a fair and good Type and stitched in blue for 16 Cents each — They are desired to get that number printed, and draw on the yearly Meeting's Treasurer for Money to defray the Expence, the same to be replaced when Subscriptions are received from the Monthly Meetings

The Monthly Meetings are notified that a Selection from the Journal of our Friend Patience Brayton deceased is put to the Press, and will

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contain about 144 pages, price 16 Cents stitched in
blue; Friends are desired, as soon as may be
to subscribe or as many as they chuse to take,
and send their subscriptions with the Money for
the Books to Caleb Greene & Wm Robt Jun.
The Committee appointed to superintend the Publi-
cation —— The Committee appointed to appropriate
the Monies raised to assist the Indian natives of the
Narragansett Tribe in removing to the Oneida
reported a Statement of the appropriation, by which
it appears that they had assisted four families in re-
moving —— That they had received $1,70.11 Cents and paid
out $189,55, a balance of $19. 44 Cts the Treasurer is
directed to pay to them or their Order. ——

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at East Greenwich
the 8th of 4th mo 1801, present Ms Homers ——

The Committee appointed to settle the Accounts of the Treasu-
er of the yearly Meeting's School Funds not having yet
attended to that Service, they are continued to do it and
report to next Meeting ——

The Committee appointed in the case of the
Sufferings of Friends of the Monthly meeting of Bolton
on account of Ministerial Taxes (so called) report that no
additional Sufferings on that Account had occurred
since last meeting, but that Friends still remained
liable, and are likely to be subjected to further Sufferings,
Whereupon Thomas Arnold & David Buffum are
appointed in addition to said Committee, to take the
subject under consideration and report to next

Meet-

Meeting what may appear to them the safest and most effectual means to relieve Friends from that Situation.

Rhode Island. Monthly Meeting are desired to make provision for Friends at the ensuing yearly meeting, in such way and manner as shall appear to them most Eligible, and the Treasurer of the yearly Meeting is directed to pay to their committee or Order three hundred dollars for that purpose.

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Portsmouth the 13th of 6th Month 1811 Present 23 members

Our Friends John Elliot from Great Britain and Joseph Hoag, Stephen Gillett, John Murray Jun. from the Yearly Meeting of New York also another by attended this time.

The Committee appointed to settle the accounts of the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting School Funds, made report, which is accepted, and is as follows. A Correct List of the Amount loaned on Interest by Thomas Rotch as Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting School Funds, and according to his account herewith presented — the Amount of said Funds, after deducting all expenditures since last settlement, in Notes and other Securities with Interest cast to the first of 6th Month 1811 amount to Five Thousand eight hundred and forty seven dollars and Forty Cents $5847.40

Rhode Island 31 Dollars

Worcester 16 "

Report of Committee on School Funds —

Nantucket 31 "

Sandwich 31 "

The [illegible] and [illegible] of [illegible]
in Boston by Meeting of Sufferings, [illegible] that the
Testimony & the way made for Friends now released
from [illegible] Jails, with which they have been active
to [illegible] this Printed Pages, and Voted that none should
be offered for one year. The subject is still continued
under the care of said Committee, [illegible]
as the same may from time to time require.

The [illegible] of the Manuscript containing datum
of prices taken from the Manuscript found at [illegible]
Friends Jobs Hill &c. [illegible] in the 12th Mo. last
resumed, it is concluded that it be forwarded to
the Meeting's papers, until a way may open for it
further disposition

The Clerk is directed to lay the Proceedings of this Meeting for the year past before the Yearly Meeting.

This Meeting is adjourned
to the close of the [illegible]

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Newport
the 18th of 6mo. 1801. present 21. Members.

Wm. Hiny is appointed Clerk for the year ensuing

It is concluded that the times and places of
holding this meeting for the year ensuing be as follow-
viz. On the days of the Select quarterly meetings at
Portsmouth in the 8th. Month, at Smithfield in the
11th. Month, at New Bedford in the 12th Mo. in Swazey
in the 1st Mo. and at East greenwich in the 4th. Month
and on the day of the Select yearly meeting at Portsmouth
all at the third hour in the afternoon.

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Portsmouth the 12th of 8th Mo. 1801, present 13 Members.

This Meeting rec.d the following Epistle from our brethren of the Meeting for Sufferings at Philadelphia viz.t

To the Meeting for Sufferings in New-England

Epistle from Phila. on account Africans

Dear Friends — Our late yearly Meeting through the prevalence of religious Exercise, being renewedly dipt into sympathy with the afflicted state of our fellow men of the african race, whose unjust sufferings and cruel oppressions, have lately much increased in some places, recommended the Subject to the Solid attention of this meeting to move therein as way might open; — in deliberating, whereon we judged it expedient to revive the concern afresh among our brethren in the several meetings for Sufferings, as it appears from accounts received, that the Trade to Africa for Slaves, and the kidnapping, transporting and selling this race of people, is now carried on in and from several parts of this Continent in a degree exceeding any former period. —

While on one hand it is cause of Lamentation that nations and individuals stiling themselves Christians, loudly proclaiming the extensive benefits of Liberty and the natural rights of men, should be thus blinded and hardened, being prompted through an insatiable thirst for gain to an horrid speculation wherein their time and Talents become devoted to purposes so base and vile, as must necessarily depend upon the practice of almost every species of wickedness for its support. — it

It also excites fervent solicitude that we as a religious Body and advocates in the cause of mercy and equity, may under the influence of heavenly wisdom, be assiduous in labour for the removal of this abominable iniquity from our land ——

We think it expedient that endeavours be used to obtain and carefully preserve authentic Documents of remarkable circumstances relating either to the cruelties exercised upon that people in the trade to Africa or within these States, and the most striking facts of injustice practiced in depriving them of their rights.

That, with becoming zeal, animated by the Spirit and power of the Lord Almighty, who we believe has committed this testimony to us and to many others, we may undauntedly open our mouths for the dumb, and plead the cause of such as appear to have no helper ——

The times are serious, the testimony of truth is advancing, and will, we have no doubt, be exalted over the heads of all its opposers — Let us then in the assurance of faith be vigilant & valiant in its cause, embracing every opportunity that may tend to the relief of this much injured people, or promote the honour of the high and holy name of God who executeth justice and judgment in the Earth — Thus will our minds be prepared to approach his sacred presence with prayer and supplication for a blessing on our labour, That

that righteousness and peace may universally prevail, and the cry of oppression cease from our Land.—

It will be acceptable to us to receive an early Answer to this Epistle, and your sentiments upon the Subject matter thereof; and as further Occasion of correspondence occur, we hope they will be embraced to mutual benefit and Edification. ——

With the Salutation of love we remain

Your friends and brethren ——

Signed on behalf and by direction of our Meeting for Sufferings held in Philadelphia the 17th. of the 4th. Mo. 1801. ——

Jno. Morris Clerk ——

Whereupon Sylvester Wickes, Joseph Harris, Elisha Thornton, Moses Brown, Wm. Almy, David Buffum are appointed to take the Subject-matter thereof into consideration, and make the necessary inspection into the State of things in these parts relative thereto & report to our next meeting what appears to them necessary for this meeting to do on this account together with an Essay of an answer to the Epistle received

David Buffum and Samuel Thurston having by the direction of the monthly meeting of Rhode Island, laid before this Meeting a copy of the minutes of that Meeting relative to their making provision for friends at the time of the late yearly Meeting, by which it appears that there has been expended $60 26/100 in addition to the $300 paid by the Treasurer in consequence of the order of this meeting

in the 4th Month last, whereupon the Treasurer is directed to pay the additional Sum of $60 26/100 to that Monthly Meeting or their Order.

The Committee appointed to superintend the publication of the Selection from the Journal of our friend Patience Brayton deceased, report, that they have had 1000 printed agreably to the Meetings direction, but that the number does not prove sufficient to answer the Subscription from the monthly meeting ——— The Committee are desired to procure a sufficient Number printed and report when accomplished.

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Smithfield 11th of 11th Mo. 1801, present 10 Members.

The Clerk being absent Wm Rotch Junr. is appointed for this time.

The Committee appointed to consider the Subject of the Epistle from the Meeting for Sufferings of Philadelphia, reported an answer thereto, which with some alteration is approved and is directed to be transcribed, signed by the Clerk and forwarded to that Meeting and is as follows ———

From our Meeting for Sufferings held at Smithfield for New England the 11th of 11th Mo. 1801 —

To the Meeting for Sufferings in Philadelphia —

Dear Friends — Your Epistle of 7th Mo. last has been rec.d by us, and the renewed Sympathy experienced by your last yearly Meeting with the afflicted African race, is very satisfactory to us, and we hope may tend to excite both

in us as well as in you, that vigilance, which
under the influence of meekness, and the assur-
ance of faith may tend to the relief of that much
injured people, and promote the Honour of the
high and holy name

We are sensible with you that the times
are indeed serious, and though the oppression of that
people by an increase, in this country, of the Slave
trade, and the kidnapping, transporting & selling
them in and from several parts of this Continent,
probably exceed any former period, yet we believe the
testimony of truth even against these enormities, is ad-
vancing in many minds, and we are desirous that
in all our movements in pleading the righteous
Cause of those who appear to have no helper, we may
act under the influence of that Spirit which at
times reaches the witness in the minds even of
the rebellious, and thereby spread the testimony by
increasing the number of those who may usefully
open their mouths for the dumb

It is indeed to be lamented that the Speculations
from the love of Money in our Countrymen, so
highly favoured with the blessings of peace and plenty,
should be carried such lengths as to involve the
lives, liberties and every enjoyment most dear to their
fellow men, and which has the tendency to harden
their own minds, and bring down the divine displeas-
on themselves and their Country, and herein we have

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an additional motive to be assiduous in labour under the precious influence of truth, to prevent our fellow Citizens and others from engaging or continuing in those unrighteous practices, and thereby remove the iniquity and avert the divine displeasure from our Land.

Many are yet in a State of inattention and some in unbelief, as to the injustice exercised towards the african race, and like many of our own Society formerly, who, though in the cool of the day, when they were brought to feel their own States, were sensible of a Cloud and uneasiness at their holding and selling those people as Slaves, yet looking out to others instead of attending to the unflattering witness in themselves were suffered through the love of the mammon of unrighteousness to go on like Paul kicking against the pricks, till Stronger light both immediate and instrumental was graciously vouchsafed for their assistance to get them out of their thraldom — So that under a retrospective view of the progress of the Testimony we have been favoured to bear we have ample reason for both Faith and Charity, Faith that the testimony will yet Spread and prevail, & Charity towards many of those who may yet be unable to withstand the temptation, which the rage too prevalent in our Country, has led them of late and at this time more than heretofore to pursue the unrighteous Traffic in their

their fellow men for the Supply of foreigners who under present circumstances, are unable therwise to supply themselves, and thus the prospect of great profits prevail over the gentle rebukes in their own minds and the Penalties of the Laws of their Country, under a hope of escaping with impunity —— Whatever therefore may tend to excite attention to the operations of truth in their minds opposing a continuance in practices repugnant thereto or that may deter from those enormities for gain, or as you propose by preserving & publishing authentic Documents of remarkable circumstances that may occur either in the Slave trade, abroad or in depriving the innocent of their rights within the United States, by exciting compassion in some & shame in others, may tend to check the evil, and by thus carefully attending to the Subject under feeling desires for the preservation of our fellow Citizens from personal depravity and our Country from guilt, while our humanity is excited for the rights of the Africans, and enabling them to become useful Citizens, by promoting them in learning in morals and the benign religion of the gospel of Christ, We may come up as valiants in this parth of the great cause of truth and righteousness in the Earth — That we may encourage one another in this and every other good work is the desire of your friends ——

The general Epistle from the yearly Meeting of London was read in this meeting, and as it contains much advice pertinent to the present State of our Society

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202 Wm. Rotch Junr. is appointed to have a Suitable number reprinted by the time of our next meeting & report the expence thereof ——

At a meeting for Sufferings held at New-Bedford the 10th of 12 Mo. 1801, present 12 Members

Wm. Rotch Junr. reports that he has procured 200 Copies of the London Epistle printed, the Cost of which is five dollars which the Treasurer is directed to pay to him or Order — and they are directed to be distributed to friends as usual ——

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Somerset the 6th of 1 Mo. 1802 — present 12 Members ——

The Clerk of this Meeting being absent Thomas Arnold is appointed Clerk for this time ——

It appears by the report of friends who hold the remainder of Job Scotts Journals that are not sold that there are in the hands of Abm. Almy and Brown 119 In the hands of Caleb Greene of New Bedford 84 & of Samuel Thurston 15 in the whole 218 besides 50 that were sent to John Taber & 50 to Isaac Hacker of which we have no report how many remain on hand, and the Clerk of this meeting is desired to enquire of Isaac Hacker & John Taber as soon as

as may be by writing or otherwise, how many
1802 they have remaining on hand and report to
4 mo. our next Meeting ——

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at
East Greenwich the 7th of 4 Mo. 1802. ——
Present 10 Members —— This Meet
rec. a Copy of a Minute from the quarterly Meet
ing of Sandwich informing that they had appointed
our friends John Bailey, Samuel Rodman, Abisha
Bunker & Thomas Hazard Junr. Members of this
Meeting conformably to the liberty given by the
Yearly Meeting ——

Rhode Island Monthly Meeting is
desired to make provision for the accommodation
of friends at the ensuing yearly meeting, in such
manner as they may judge most eligible and
report the expence thereof when the Service is ac-
complished, in the mean time they are at liberty
to draw on the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting
for three hundred dollars to be appropriated for
that purpose, and the Clerk is directed to furnish
said Monthly Meeting with a Copy of this Mi-
nute ——

1802

[illegible] adjourned to accordingly, agreeable [illegible] almost every town in the State [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

Lodge Some Monthly Meeting desiring
to forbear that they have or make, in making
provision for friends at the yearly meeting,
£336.50 The balance of £36.56 the Treasurer
is directed to pay Richard Mitchel or Order on
behalf of this Monthly Meeting.

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Pur-
ley the 6th of 10th Mo 1802. Present 15 Members.

William Alloy reports that he has
forwarded a Bucket 20 of Soft Soaps found
to be taken by Thomas Greene to Nova Scotia
agreeably to the minute of this Meeting on the
6th Mo last. The Committee appointed
in consequence of the representation from
the monthly meeting of Baltimore, inform
that they have laboured in that service agree-
ably to their appointment and that there was
some encouragement given of the difficulty
being removed they are still continued to
labour further in that matter & may
open, and report their progress therein in
the 12th Mo next.

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Pur-
Ley the 9th of 12th Mo 1802, present the Members
One of the committee in the case of friends being
affected in the Monthly meeting of Baltimore
for

for the payment of an Riveting Ministry, reports
1803 that nothing further has been done on that
account — They are continued to pay further
attention to that Subject and report to this
meeting in the 2nd Month next. —

No returns having been made from
the monthly meetings respecting Job Scott's
and John Griffith's Journals, the disposal of
the Books is referred to the 2nd Month next. —

It appearing from the representation
of friends, who had the care of providing
J. Hoag ways and means for our friend Joseph Hoag
to accomplish his religious Visit to the inhab-
itants of Nova-Scotia and the Island of
St Johns agreably to a Certificate given him
by the monthly and quarterly meetings of
which he is a member, that there had been
advanced by individuals for that purpose,
$164 75/100 which being approved the Treasurer
is directed to readvance the same to William
Rotch Junr or his Order, and the Clerk is
directed to forward a Copy of this minute to the
Clerk of the Meeting for Sufferings at New York
for their attention. —

1803 At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Smith
field 9th of 2nd Mo. 1803. present 12 Members. —
A part of the Committee appointed in the case
relative to friends sufferings within the month

1813

a Monthly Meeting of Baltimore on account of Priests Wages inform, that Friends Situation remains the same that it has been for some time past respecting the Taxes formerly assessed against them, and that another Tax has also been assessed for the same purpose, and liable to be collected ——

This meeting being desirous that Friends in that monthly meeting may be relieved from their present Situation as far as may appear to be right for the same, desire said Committee, together with William Rakestraw Jun.r & Samuel Rowland who are added to them, to confer with such members of the general Court of the State of Massachusetts as they may judge suitable, and endeavour to collect the mind of such members, respecting the mode of proceeding most likely to be successful in procuring Friends relief — and if it looks eligible to get the Subject moved in the said general Court, by some of the members thereof or submitted to the consideration of the Towns where the Taxes are assessed. that they thus do or otherwise make a report to our next meeting what appears to them most proper to be done in the case, together with such Laws of said State as may affect this Subject or any other part of our religious Testimony ——

An account being received from the monthly meeting respecting the Settlement of John Griffiths Journals

the further disposition of them is deferred till the 6th mo. next.

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at East Greenwich the 6th of 4th mo. 1803. Present 11 Members —

One of the Committee appointed in consequence of Friends situation respecting Priests Wages in the monthly meeting of Bolton, informed that attention has been paid to that matter, and on the Subject having been introduced by some of the members of the general Court of the State of Massachusetts, to that body at the instance of Friends laying the matter before those Members, that an Act has been passed by said Legislature, which appears likely to answer the end desired, but the Act not being present, nor a full report from said Committee that matter is referred to next meeting.

Moses Brown having been desired to get a sufficient Number reprinted, of the last general Epistle from our friends and brethren in London, reports that he has got them reprinted accordingly, the cost of which is £3, 3, 4 cents, which the Treasurer is directed to repay him.

The monthly meeting of Rhode Island are desired to make provision for the accommoda-

of Friends at the ensuing yearly meeting and report the expence when ascertained to this meeting— In the mean time they are at liberty to draw on the yearly meetings Treasurer for $300 for that purpose, and the Clerk is directed to furnish said monthly meeting with a Copy of this minute.

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Portsmouth the 8th of 6th mo. 1803 present 25 members.

The Committee to whose care was committed the situation of Friends in the Monthly Meeting of Boston relative to their being assessed for the payment of Poor's Rates, repeated as part of the Act which this Meeting was informed at our last Meeting had been enacted by the Legislature of the State of Massachusetts for the more full and explicit exemption of Friends from any Assessments of this nature, which being read appeared to be very satisfactory. The Committee also report that the disposition manifested by the said Legislative Body, to leave Friends enjoy their religious liberty unmolested, was very evident in their deliberations on this subject, a Copy of said Act is as follows.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

In the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred & three

An Act in addition to an Act entitled an Act to exempt the people called Quakers, from paying Taxes, for the support of Publick worship, passed the twenty third day of June in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred & ninety seven.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the Authority of the same that no person who hath been assessed any Tax which has been made for the support of Publick Worship shall recover any sum paid to the Assessors for the time being of the

110 Town, Parish, Precinct, District or other religious Society in
1803 which such Tax was assessed, a Certificate signed by two
of the Overseers, and countersigned by the Clerk of the Meeting with
the attendes for Worship, in substance as follows.

"We the Subscribers overseers of the meeting or
Society of Friends called Quakers in the Town of
in the County of do hereby
certify that is a member of our Society
or usually attends with us, in our stated meetings for
Worship, and the yearly income is of our Religious persua-
sion.

It shall be the duty of such Assessors to abate such Tax, and
such person shall not be further holden to pay the same.

Section 2 Be it further Enacted, That the Assessors of each Parish or
Religious Society within this Commonwealth shall omit in the Tax
Voted to be Assessed on the Polls and Estates within such Parish
or Society, such persons living within the limits of the same, as
belong to and usually attend Publick Worship in the Religious
Society of the people called Quakers.

In the House of Representatives March 7th 1803
This Bill having had three several readings, passed to be
enacted.

John C. Jones Spkr.

In Senate March 7th 1803 This Bill having had
three several readings passed to be enacted.

David Cobb Presidt

March 8th 1803
By the Governor approved
Caleb Strong.

A true Copy Attest
John Avery Secretary.

It is concluded by this Meeting that the Journals of our Monthly Meetings be sold to John Griffith be divided to the Quarterly Meetings according to the proportion which each Quarterly Meeting pays into the yearly Meeting Treasury as near as may be, and the Clerk is directed to divide them accordingly.

It being represented to this Meeting that there are divers monthly and Preparative meetings in Salem and Falmouth Quarters, that are destitute of any book of Discipline. And it appearing that there are divers Monthly Meetings in the other Quarters that have more than is really necessary, Such Monthly Meetings are desired to send to the Yearly Meetings Treasurer the surplusage which they severally hold, after retaining one for the Monthly, and one for each Preparative Meeting. And said Monthly Meetings who are destitute are at liberty to apply to the Treasurer, and receive one both for the monthly Meeting and one for each Preparative meeting.

William Routh Jun. is desired to procure one hundred copys of the Queries to be printed at this Meeting expence, and distribute them where they are wanted.

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Newport 15th of 6th Mo. 1803 ——— present 23 Members ———

It is concluded that the usual place of holding this Meeting for the yr ensuing be the same as at last year ———

and they are directed to be distributed to Friends as usual ——

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Somerset the 6th of 1mo 1802. present 12 Members

The Clerk of this Meeting being absent Thomas Arnold is appointed Clerk for this time ——

It appears by the report of Friends who have the remainder of 268 Bolts, Journals that are not sold that there are in the hands of Stuy Brown 119 in the hands of Caleb Greene of New Bedford 84, and of Samuel Thurston 15, the whole 218, besides 50 that were sent to John Tabor 50 to Isaac Hacker some time past, of which we hear no report how many remain on hand — and the Clerk of this meeting is desired to enquire of Isaac Hacker and John Tabor as soon as may be in Writing or otherwise, how many they have remaining on hand and report to our next meeting ——

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at East Greenwich the 7th of 4mo 1802 present 10 Members ——

This Meeting received the following Minute from the quarterly Meeting of Providence that they had appointed four Friends Members of this Meeting, viz. Moses Brown, Stephen Wilbur, Samuel Rodman, Abishai Tucker & Thomas Arnold ——

provision for the accommodation of [illegible]
[illegible] in such manner
as they may judge most eligible and report
the expence thereof, when the same is accomplished
on the Treasurer of the yearly meeting

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Nantucket
the 8th of 8th mo 1813 from the Monthly
Meetings.

The following Minute from the yearly meeting
relative to the yearly Meeting's Stock in the
Funds was received, and is as follows — viz.

Respecting Boarding School

The Committee appointed last year to re-
mote Subscriptions for the purpose of encouraging a
boarding School, having made report, they are
released from further attention thereto; and as the said
Committee have not been able to obtain a sufficient
Fund to commence a School at present, the Subscriptions
are relinquished. — And this Meeting feeling a
renewed concern, that the object of establishing a
School for the promotion of a guarded Education may
still be kept in view, and be put in execution, as soon
as it can be merely effected, do recommend to the
several quarterly & monthly meetings, to encourage
friends to a liberal Subscription ——

And the Meeting for Sufferings are recommended
to take up the Subject, and proceed therein as way
may open in best wisdom to promote Subscriptions
for the increase of the permanent fund or for Subscrip-
tions for annual expenditures for the School when
established — And if way should open for them
to apply such annual Subscriptions, and the Interest
of the present fund, either by establishing a School under
their care, or in conjunction with any quarterly
Meeting, who have or may establish a School

on

under the care thereof, they are at liberty to proceed therein as they may think proper consistent with the principles upon which the present Fund is held ——

William Hunt is appointed Clerk for the year ensuing ——

The Monthly Meeting of Rhode Island report that they have made provision for Friends at the late yearly meeting agreably to the desire of this meeting in the 4th mo. last that the expence thereof has been $153,85 which makes a balance due from of $153,85 which the Treasurer of the yearly Meeting is desired to pay to Benjamin Brecbon or Order, in behalf of said Monthly Meeting ——

At a meeting for Sufferings held at Providence the 12th of 10th mo. 1803 present 11 Members ——

Caleb Greene is appointed to procure the London printed general Epistle reprinted viz. a sufficient number of copies for the several meetings and distribute them and report the expence thereof ——

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at New Bedford the 5th day of 12th mo. 1803 present 16 Members ——

Caleb Greene reports that he has had the London general Epistle reprinted viz. 500 Copies, the expence thereof is $10,50 which the Treasurer is directed to pay to him or Order ——

114
1803

The yearly meeting having represented to this Meeting
that friends endeavours to procure Subscriptions
sufficient to establish a yearly meeting School
aforesaid, and that those who have subscribed on the
School former conditions were released from the same, at
the same time recommended to this Meeting to
promote Subscriptions for the increase of the present
Fund, which was Subscribed some time last and
amounts to about 4000 dollars, conceiving that
if friends were to direct their views to the enlarging
of said Fund with a liberality which the considera-
tion of the importance and usefulness of the object
we hope will not fail to excite, that the annuities
will be laid for the commencement of an institu-
tion, at a time not very remote, which has for
its object the welfare of the rising generation
Do recommend to the quarterly & monthly meetings
to enter into a Subscription for that purpose, the
Interest thereof to be considered at the disposal of
the yearly meeting to be applied to the purposes
aforesaid — and report their proceedings to this
meeting in the 6th mo next —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at
Smithfield the 5th of 2nd mo 1803 present William
William Rotch Jun.r & Samuel Rodman, have
been desired at our last meeting to prepare

Sub-

1804 Subscription papers and send to the several monthly meetings agreeably to this meeting's conclusion relative to the yearly meeting's School Funds, and this meeting not receiving any intelligence respecting their proceedings in order that the said Subscription papers may get to the monthly meetings as soon as may be & report to this meeting at their next Sitting

Ayes & Noes of their proceedings the Clerk is directed to enquire of them

At a meeting for Sufferings held at East Greenwich the 11th of 4th Mo. 1804. present 11 Members —

The monthly meeting of Rhode Island is desired to make provision for Friends at the ensuing yearly meeting and report the expence to this meeting when ascertained, and said monthly meeting is at liberty to draw on the yearly meeting's Treasurer for $200 for that purpose, and the Clerk is directed to furnish [illegible] Meeting with a copy of this minute.

The Clerk informs that he has made the enquiry respecting the Subscription papers relative to the yearly meeting's School Funds, and that he is informed that those for Rhode Island quarter, are in the hands of a Friend at this place and ready to be delivered to the quarterly meeting & that others of them have been distributed in some of the other quarters —

516
1804

The Clerk informs that he has since our last
meeting received from the Clerks of three Meetings
for Sufferings at New York, the money which
they had advanced on account of a Friend's Threr
yearly meeting in his travelling to Nova-
Scotia & the Island of St. Johns &c. viz
$164 75/100 which he is directed to hand to the
Yearly Meeting's Treasurer.

New York
Mg for
payment

A Meeting of Sufferings held at
Portsmouth the 9th of 6mo 1804 pr. adjt 24 Novembe
Our Friend George Churchman from Pennsylva
nia also attended at this time.

This Meeting having deliberated
on various subjects relative to the concerns of Society
adjourns to the close of the Yearly Meeting.

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Newport the 15th of the 8th month 1804 adjourned from the time of the yearly-meeting

This meeting being the time appointed for holding the yearly meeting for the year ensuing & the same which were last year

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Portsmouth the 5th of the 9th 1804, present 14 Members William Hoag is appointed Clerk for the year ensuing

A Minute was received from New Bedford monthly meeting informing that the Committee appointed by this meeting for the increase of the yearly meetings School-fund

The Treasurer is directed to receive the money or satisfactory security for the same

The Monthly-meeting of Rhode-Island report that the expence of making provision to accomodate friends at the late yearly meeting has been 102 $\frac{5}{100}$ dollars the Balance of 202 $\frac{5}{10}$ being the sum * from this Monthly meeting — the yearly meetings Treasurer is directed to pay the same & receive Thanks or Order in behalf of said Monthly Meeting

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1804

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Newbedford the 10th of 10th Mo. 1804. present 16 Members — The Meeting having received and read a small Manuscript written or compiled by our friend Joseph Scott on Church discipline, and expressing that acceptableness would arise by sundry of it's and being published at the present time

Practice
Jos Scott
on C Discipline

at present Thomas Arnold, Moses Brown, Sylvester Nicholas, William Almy, Thomas Mawdsley to revise the same and prepare it for publication, if way open for it, and report to our next meeting

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Newbedford the 13th of 11th Month 1804 present 14 Members.

The Committee appointed to prepare for the Press the compilation of our friend Joseph Scott Decease on Church discipline reported the same, which being approved, the Committee together with William Rotch Junr & Samuel Rodman are appointed to procure the same printed with convenient speed and report the expence thereof to this meeting when accomplished — This Meeting adjourns to the 11th hour to morrow morning

11th mo. 14th by adjournment present 18 Members

The printed general Epistle from our friends & brethren of the yearly meetings in London for the present year was read

read in this meeting, that Caleb [illegible]
is appointed to procure 3000 Copies thereof
and distribute them to the Monthly Meetings
and report the expence to our next
Meeting

A late publication entitled a Compendious
History of New England designed for the use
of Schools and private families by Jedidiah
Morse & Elijah Parish was read in our Meeting
and the manner in which our ancient Ancestors are
injuriously treated, having come to the
knowledge & consideration of this meeting,
and it appearing to be a duty which is
due to their memory, and the cause of
truth, to endeavour to prevent its injurious
consequences, Ordered - William Rotch
Junr Moses Brown, Thomas Arnold,
Samuel Rodman, David Buffum &
William Almy to treat with the Author
and endeavour to induce them to make the
proper correction and amendments, or such
other satisfaction as the case may require
to avert the wrong which otherwise is likely
to ensue; and also to advise friends to use
their influence in a suitable manner
to discourage the circulation of said Book in
its present form and report their proceedings
to our next meeting

520
R 5
2 mo

At a Meeting of Friends held at Smithfield the 6th of 2nd mo 1806, present 11 Members

The Committee appointed to endeavour to get corrected the injurious reflections made by Jedediah Morse and Elijah Parish in their compendious History of New England report that they have written them on the subject, and that one of the Committee has received a letter from Jedidiah Morse in answer to one which he had written them previous to the present Meeting come under the consideration of this meeting in which they are united to request the misrepresentations respecting Friends, in a future Edition of said History — A Copy of said Letter is annexed to this Minute — The Committee are continued to attend to the subject and desired to use their endeavours that the corrections may be such as will do justice to the memory and principles of our ancient Friends, and report to this meeting as occasion may require and when their service is accomplished — Said Committee also report that they have written to the ministry for Meetings at Philadelphia and New York & to the Yearly Meetings agreeably to their appointment —

Respected friend

Letter of Moore

I received your favour of the 24th ult. a few days ago — though truly anticipated I never have been more surprised in my life — feeble as I am however, I owe it to your feelings and endeavour to make you a speedy answer —

Mr Wilkinson had mentioned your objections to a part of the History of New England and I had had a personal interview and explanation with him in Boston before I received your letter —

The parts of the History to which you object were as you conjecture written by the Rev. Parish in whose accuracy and fidelity I had full confidence — I presumed my review was too hasty owing to this confidence — I truly regret that the paragraphs you mention excited one sigh from what had before passed between us which led me to appreciate the subject — I was entirely satisfied that the History of the treatment of the Quakers who first came to New England was not impartial and that it was better to let the unpleasant business sleep in oblivion, than to attempt a justification of it on the part of our Fathers — My partner & I had no consultation on that subject and he wrote doubtless under my former impressions yielding credit to our common historian

122
1805

I confess my fault very frankly & am
sorry it past me can only say that it
was without design, that I regret it,
and that it shall be rectified in a new
Edition which will be very shortly put
to press, having sold the whole (2000 copies
of the first edition which was made to the
booksellers. — No material injury
I presume can result from so partial
a circulation in its present form — I
receive your communication with the
same emotions of gratitude & friendship
I did the former, and am mortified that
you should have had occasion to repeat
to me the same things — lest assured you
shall never have the like occasion again
for I hope you will do me the justice to
believe that I am truly a friend to your
denomination as much from whom I
have received many marks of civility &
kind, I am particularly your respectful
obliged and sincere friend —

T. Moore

1805 At a Meeting for Sufferings held at East Greenwich the 10th of 4th Mo 1805 — present 11 Members

The Committee appointed to procure printed the treatise on Church discipline compiled by our friend Job Scott deceased, report that there are 1000 printed agreeably to their appointment — the Cost whereof is $60 which the yearly meeting Treasurer is directed to pay to Samuel Rowman or Order —

The Committee are desires to distribute them equally to the several quarterly meetings for them to sell the Books to those who may wish to purchase them and the proceeds to be deposited in the quarterly Meetings Treasury to be appropriated by said meetings towards their proportion of next yearly Meeting's Stock the price 40/ a piece

The Monthly meeting of Portsmouth are desired to make provision for Friends at the next yearly meeting and to report the expence thereof to this meeting ——— said Monthly meeting is at liberty to draw on the Yearly Meeting's Treasurer for $300. for that purpose ——

The Printer's bill for printing 300 copys of the London general Epistle for 1804 with his attendance the 12th mo. last was laid before this meeting & ordered to be paid. The said Meeting's Treasurer is directed to pay the same say fifty six dollars to Samuel [illegible].

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Portsmouth the 5th of 1 mo. 1805, present 25 Members.

The Committee continued to use their endeavours to get corrected the misrepresentations and erroneous reflections made by the Authors of the compendious History of New England in that work, report that, in consequence of the correspondence which they had entered into with the said Authors, they had cordially agreed to make the corrections and amendments which had been proposed to them, and which the Committee apprehended would leave the subject, in said work, in a good degree unexceptionable, as it respects our religious Society.

Copys of said letters & correspondence are on file.

The Committee are continued to report again on the said subject when the business is accomplished.

This Meeting after deliberating on diverse subjects relative to the concerns of society adjourn'd to the 2d day of the Yearly Meeting.

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Rhode Island at the close of the Yearly Meeting, present 28 Members

It is concluded that the times and places of holding this Meeting for the year ensuing be the same as they were last year.

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Portsmouth the 2d day of the 8th Mo. 1805 present 16 members. Our friend William Crotch from Great Britain also attended this Meeting.

William Almy is appointed Clerk for the day.

The Meeting for Sufferings at New York having forwarded us an extract which they had received from the two Friends which were sent by our friends Joseph Scott & Joseph on the subject of salvation by Christ and which this Meeting send some time past for the inspection of said Meeting for Sufferings accompanied by the following letter & epistle. This Meeting having heard the same read & deliberately and after considering the subject to which it relates under consideration & the views of Thomas Arnold, Thomas Arnold, Samuel Coggeshall, Nathan Underhill and William Almy are desired to visit that Meeting upon the occasion & report to the next Meeting such of their doings as they judge proper.

To the Meeting for Sufferings in New England
Dear Friends

Letter from N York on Rob Scotts Manuscripts

After having made divers attempts to examine & revise the two manuscript pieces of our friend Robt Scott, which you transmitted to us a considerable time since for our inspection; We have at length concluded to furnish you with the result of our deliberate attention to the subject, and which is comprized in a selection from those pieces, so as to form one

In the course of our examination, it appeared to us, that a great a degree of similarity pervaded the work as embraced in two pieces, as to render it desirable, not only to abridge the whole matter, but if possible to select from each, what should be adjudged the most valuable, in order to combine the same in an abridgment

We were the more induced to recur to this method from some reflections, which in the early stage of the business, impressed the minds of divers brethren, relative to some abstruse points of doctrine which our beloved friend had touched on, and which appeared to us, of a nature so delicate, as to admit of varied & unbecoming constructions, and might therefore rather lead into curious criticisms and disquisitions, than tend to open the understandings or improve the hearts. Under this prospect of the subject it was thought unsafe & improper to expose to public view, sentiments & observations which might have a tendency that way; hence in our examination it became necessary either to decline the publication of the work, or attempt a selection from it, which might embrace the substance of both, without retaining the parts, which did not appear to be sufficiently cleared & explained, as to be judged requisite in a publication of that kind.

In perusing and attending to the manuscripts we were early impressed with a sense of much valuable matter being couched under them, and we felt a solicitude that our minds might be in the exercise in order to render them as diffusive in their circulation, as might have been intended by our valued friend who composed them. You cannot be surprized to find, we have been exercised in the course of our attention to the subject. Suffice it to have travelled thus far, and submit to your consideration the result of our labors, yet as we feel interested in the work, & are desirous of its being in readiness for publication, we hold ourselves willing, if any further attention on our part may be thought useful, to cooperate with you in giving the subject a further careful review.

With the salutation of love, we are

Your affectionate friends.

Signed by direction & on behalf of the Meeting

[illegible]

The Monthly Meeting of Rhode Island extd
that the expence of printing Discipline for friends at
the late Yearly Meeting was £35.4.5 - which leaves a
balance due to said Meeting of £22.4.5 - which the
Treasurer is directed to pay to the Order of David Buffum on
behalf of said Monthly Meeting.

This meeting is adjourned to the 8th hour
to morrow morning.

Eighth day met by adjournment

Some business of concernment to said
having occurred for which no attention at this setting
which did not appear sufficiently to enter on our Minutes
at this time.

Sylvester Weekes and Joseph Harris are
appointed to confer with and name to our next
Meeting some person to serve as Clerk for the year ensue
ing.

A Meeting of Sufferings held at
Providence the 9th of 10th mo. 1805 present 18 members.

The Committee appointed at last Meeting
to inspect a Copy for this Meeting to record James Ten-
man, which meeting on examination do is approved
Clerk for the year to ensue, but he not being present
to sign his assent. William Rodman Jr is appointed
Clerk for this time.

The General printed Epistle from our
Brethren of the Yearly Meeting of London of the present
year was read. And Caleb Greene is appointed to procure
sufficient copies thereof and distribute to the several
Quarterly and Monthly Meetings and bring an account
of the expence to a future Meeting.

Adjourned to the 9th hour 11th day morning.

11th day met the Adjournment present the
same Committee as at the last sitting excepting
Caleb Greene. Some Essex attended this time.

1805 And we have also the company of Benjamin White and Thomas Cary from Pennsylvania

This Meeting having attended during the forenoon to the business to the business before us adjourned to the 3d hour this afternoon.

Afternoon met by adjournment and spent the time as in the morning in considering a subject of importance which came before us but did not result in a way necessary to express on our minutes.

12 mo At a Meeting for Sufferings held at New Bedford the 12th of 12 Month 1805. present Sixteen Members.

After deliberating upon various subjects of Society concern the Meeting adjourned to the 7th hour this evening.

Met According to Adjournment

present the same Members as at the first sitting.

The Meeting presumed the Subjects that occupied the former Sitting Adjourned to the 8th hour, to morrow evening

13th day Met by Adjournment present the same members as at the former Sittings —

Book Henry Tuke

A book entitled the Principles of Religion as held by the Society of Christians usually called Quakers, Written by Henry Tuke, being lately republished in Newyork, And Some of the Members present, who have perused it, having expressed their Approbation of its contents & belief that it is calculated for general use & usefulness in the families of friends; with which this Meeting so far concurs as to recommend to the Members present the careful perusal of said Publication, in order to qualify us to form an Opinion, whether at our next Meeting it may be advisable to procure a number of them for the use of the members of our Yearly Meeting, to be Accounted for by the Monthly Meetings to which they may be Sent for distribution. —

Adjourned to the 9th hour to morrow Morning —

14th Met by Adjournment.

present Sixteen Members as before,

Manuscript J. Scott on the saving knowledge of God

A Manuscript written by our deceased friend Jos. Scott, being considerations respecting the One true and saving knowledge of God, the One true & saving Faith and the One ordy Christian Baptism, With a Copy of a letter, written by him when he was in Ireland, dated 21st of 2 Month 1793. having been read during this and the forepart sitting, the Contents of which feelingly impressing our minds as being too valuable to be passed over without further care from this Meeting. Do therefore Moses Brown, Wm. Rotch Jun. Thomas Arnold, Wm. Thurston David Buffum & Samuel Rodman to revise & correct the Manuscript & bring their proceedings to our next Meeting —

Caleb Green handed a bill for reprinting 200 copies of the London Yearly Epistle, amounting to Ten Four Dollars, which the Treasurer is directed to pay & charge Shearman Jun. on order —

Adjourned to the 3d hour this afternoon —

Met by adjournment —

Present the same Members as at last sitting —

Concerning his loss of Job

Spent the time in reading further manuscripts of our dec. friend Job Scott, among which, One entitled the history of Job, shewing the end for which he was afflicted is referred to the aforesaid Committee to revise & correct & report their proceedings to our next Meeting —

1806

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Smithfield the 12th of the 2. Month 1806

Present Twelve Members

The Committee appointed at the 8th & 12th M. last to take under consideration the abridgement of the manuscript received from the Meeting for Sufferings of New York & Vicinity & correct the Manuscripts laid before our last Meeting, make the following report — viz.

Agreeable to appointment, We have taken under consideration the Manuscript received from our friends of the

130
1806

Meeting for Sufferings in New York & recvd an essay of a short letter to that Meeting, containing our prospect of disposing of the Manuscript therein mentiond — We have also considered of one of the Manuscripts & letter, read in the last Meeting, and three or four other letters, written by our friend Job Scott, while in Europe, and lay the same before the Meeting for their further consideration & disposal — have marked such corrections as appeard to us necessary in case the Meeting should think proper to publish them, which is submitted —

In behalf of the Committee
11th day of 2 Mo. 1806. by Moses Brown.

Which is Accepted and the following letter therein alluded to Approved,

To the Meeting for Sufferings in New York

Dear friends

Letter to New York on J. Scotts writings

Although it is a considerable time since your letter of 4 month. has been received by us, Yet we have not been inattentive to the selection you have made from the two manuscript pieces of our friend Job Scott, which was read in our Meeting in the 8th Month last & referd to a Com. And while we feel a brotherly Affection & Sympathy for the interest you have manifested & the exercise you have been brought into, in your examination & selection from those pieces, we are persuaded that under the present situation of his other manuscripts on similar subjects not yet fully considered by us, and other considerations, that it is best for the present to suspend taking any further measures for preparing those writings for the press — Should the subject be again revived with a view to the publishing of them, we shall doubtless communicate with you thereupon — In the meantime it is our prospect that care be taken that no copies get out so as to raise any unreasonable expectation of their publication

Signed by direction & on behalf of the Meeting for Sufferings held at Smithfield for New England the 12th day of the 2d Month 1806 by Sam.l Rodman Clerk

Some of the Members to whom was recommended a carefull perusal & the publication of Henry Tuke at our last Meeting having expressed their opinion of its contents, And as some parts thereof appears to us to admit of amendment, We Appoint Moses Brown, Wm Rotch jun: Wm. Almy, David Buffum, Elisha Thornton & Thomas Arnold, to peruse the book & such few Corrections as may Appear to them proper to be made, they are desired to take measures to effect, & when Accomplished then are Authorized to purchase One Thousand on this Meetings Acco.

The following Extract was received & read,

The Committee on general Services, made the following report which is adopted for A minute of this Meeting,

The Yearly Meeting of Philadelphia, having expressed a concern that our discipline should be as uniform as may be, And it being a desirable object to this Meeting, We commit the Subject to the attention of the Meeting for Sufferings to correspond with the Committee of that Meeting, And the Meeting for Sufferings in Newyork, on the Subject to report the same for the consideration of our next Yearly Meeting

Extracted from the Minutes of our Yearly Meeting held on Rhode Island by adjournment, from the 16th to the 19th of 6m: 1805 by Obadiah Davis, Clerk this year

Which being considered, Moses Brown, Thomas Arnold, Wm Rotch jun. & Sam Rodman are appointed in conformity thereto, to transmit our discipline to the Committee in Philadelphia, & the Meeting for Sufferings in Newyork, & communicate our Unity with the proposition so far as local circumstances may admit, & in an special manner, that our discipline, as respects personal rights may exhibit a strict uniformity, And report their proceedings at our next Meeting —

Adjourned to the 12th day of next Month at Providence;

132 12th day of the 3 Month. Met and [illegible]
1806 present 14 Members —
Adjourned to the 3d hour this afternoon.
Met according to Adjournment.
Adjourned to half past 8 to morrow morning.
13th day Met according to adjournment.
present the same Members as yesterday.
Adjourned to half past 2 this afternoon.
Met according to adjournment. —

Manuscripts F. Scott. This & the preceding day Divine Friend in reading some of the Manuscripts of our Deceased friend Job Scott, as laid before the Meeting by the Committee who had the care of perusing them, with which this Meeting is so far satisfied as to think it necessary that they be fairly copied with the corrections as are therein made: Elisha Thornton is desired to do them and present them at our next Meeting —
Adjourned to the 8th hour to morrow Morning —
present the same Members as at the former Sittings
the four letters alluded to in the foregoing report of the Committee appointed to revise the Manuscripts of our dec.d friend Job Scott, one other, now reported to be read, and it being believed by us that the publication of them may prove [illegible]
We appoint Wm Rotch jun.r & Sam.l Rodman to carefully peruse & prepare them for the press and present them at a future Meeting —
This Meeting having had before it a book written by our deceased friend Wm Penn entitled the Rudiments of Religion as professed in our religious Society, have examined the same by a Committee appointed for the purpose: and it appearing to be a well written useful publication for Friends to have in their families, particularly for our Youth, and to be circulated as far as may then be our inclination
We recommend Subscription to be made therefor by us in all our Monthly Meetings the price being fifty Cents each and that they send an [illegible]
[illegible]
as soon as convenient after the [illegible]

directed to send a copy of this Minute to each Mo Meeting.

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at East Greenwich the 9th of the 11th Month 1806

Present Eleven Members

The Clerk of this Meeting being unwell & absent Thomas Arnold is Appointed Clerk for this time

The Meeting Spent some time in examining some of our friend Job Scotts Letters under inspection for the press—

It is concluded that Rhode Island Monthly Meeting be requested to make the necessary provision for holding the ensuing Yearly Meeting, as usual, and the said Monthly Meeting is Authorized to draw on the Yearly Meetings treasurer for Three Hundred Dollars on Account of the charge thereof and to report the Amount to a future Meeting. And the Clerk is directed to forward them a copy of this Minute

The Meeting adjourned to the third, third day in the fifth Month: to meet at Providence

20th of the 5 Month, Met According to Adjournment

Present Twelve Members

Adjourned to the 3d hour this Afternoon.

Met According to Adjournment.

Present the same Members, as in the Morning—

Adjourned to the 8th hour to morrow Morning.

21st day Met According to Adjournment.

Present the same Members as yesterday.

This & the preceding day being Spent in the examination of the manuscripts of our deceased friend Job Scott, now presented to the Meeting after being copied. And another of his Manuscripts on Perseverance being at this time read, We Appoint Elisha Thornton, William Burgess, Joseph Harris & Wm. Hunt to make such corrections of them as may appear necessary, & have the last mentioned transcribed & bring it to a future Meeting.

This

This Meeting being desirous to have those matters in a state of preparation for the press provided it should appear best hereafter to publish them.

The Consideration of the Letters under consideration at last Meeting is referd to our next Meeting

Adjourned to the Second day of the Week at Portsmouth the 6th of 1806

Second Day

Few Friends present absent Monthly Meetings several of them the Committee is appointed to engage

One Minister from Great Britain Jesse Bennet and one from Pennsylvania, and two Ministers and Some Ba[illegible] for the State of New York attended this Meeting.

The consideration of the Letters from our Friends Job Scott &c are here again deferred the attention of this Meeting being required

The Meeting continues to this time.

The Committee appointed to transmit our Discipline to Salem &c are continued

This Meeting is adjourned to the

Third day Morning.

18th day Met According to Adjournment.

Present 21 Members as at first sitting.

Adjourned to the 3d hour on 4th day at Quarterly Meeting to be held next at Portsmouth.

Met at Portsmouth according to adjournment 4th day of 8th Month 1806. Present 15 Members.

Letter by Elizabeth Mott.

The Epistle from our Yearly Meeting held in London this present year was read in this Meeting. And the concern therein manifested having our feeling sympathy

the amount. Clerk to draw on David Buffum, Richard Mitchell to render her such assistance as may be necessary in publishing the same in such time & manner as they may judge most useful —

A Statement of the expence attending the accomodation of the last Yearly Meeting, being presented from Rhode Island Monthly Meeting agreeable to our minute in the 4th month last, it appears that its Amount is $580 100. leaving a balance of $280 35/100 due to said Meeting. Which the Clerk is directed to discharge by an order on the Treasurer of this Yearly Meeting. —

Our Friend Moses Brown, having acquainted this Meeting that he had received from the Printer Six hundred Copies published by our Friend Henry Hyde, And the subscriptions not being yet received from the Monthly Meetings, he is authorized to receive from the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting the Amount thereof, to be reimbursed by the subscription money when received —

The Committee appointed to transcribe the Manuscript on Perseverance, having presented it, And it appearing necessary that such corrections should be made therein, as have been advised to in this Meeting, it is continued in the care of said Committee therefor —

Adjourned, to Meet at Providence on the 4th day preceding the second 6th day in the Tenth Month —

8th day of 10th Month. Met According to Adjournment

Present Twelve Members —

An Epistle from the last Yearly Meeting of our friends in London was received & read much to our satisfaction, And in order to diffuse its valuable contents, this Meeting conceives that it be reprinted and William Rotch Jun. is appointed to have 250 copies thereof printed & distributed to the several Quarterly & Monthly Meetings, and exhibit an account of the expence at a future Meeting —

Adjourned to be held here this afternoon.

met according to adjournment present 13 Members.

The Committee who had the care of the Minutes upon perseverance, returned it to this Meeting, which was again read & deliberately considered, which consideration resulted in a united opinion that it can not at this time be usefully published.

It is concluded that our future Meetings, to the Period of our next Quarterly Meeting, be held at New Bedford in the 12th Month Providence in the 2d Month Greenwich in the 5th Month on the days of the Select Quarterly Meeting, and at Portsmouth on the day of the Select Quarterly Meeting in the Sixth Month, all at the 3d hours of the days.

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at New Bedford the 11th of 12 M. 1806.

Present Twelve Members

William Rotch Jun. reports that he has had 2500 Copies of the Extracts printed according to Agreement, part of which are distributed. The Account being fifty dollars. The Clerk is directed to give an order on the Quarterly Meeting Treasurer for

Adjourned to the 6th hour to morrow Evening.

12th day. Met by adjournment —

Present the same members as yesterday

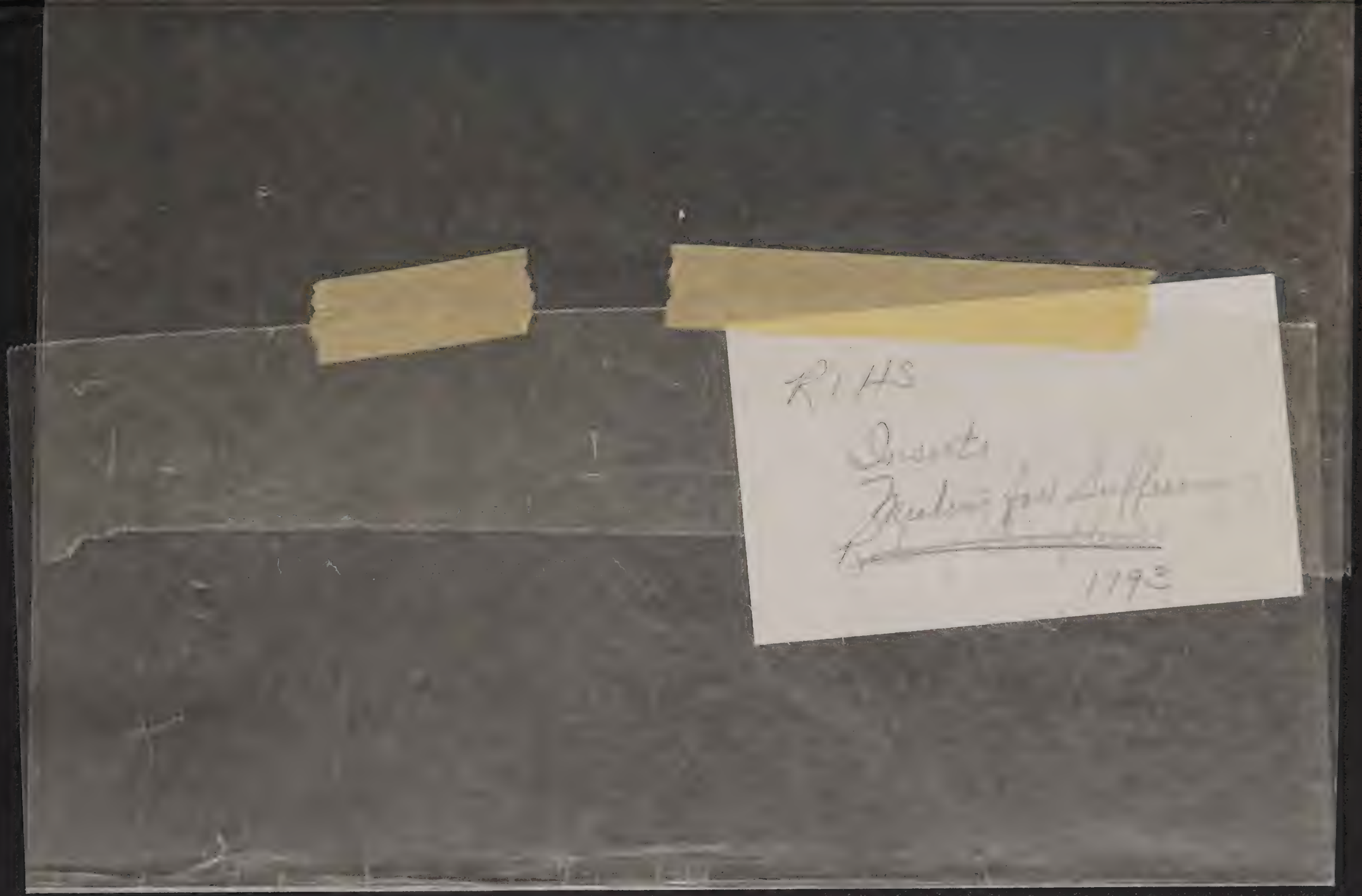
It received from the Meeting for Sufferings held in Philadelphia, a Copy of their lately revised Discipline which is acceptable, & their attention hereby manifested is cordially received —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence the 4th of the 12d Month 1806

Present Fourteen Members

The following copy of a minute was received & read.

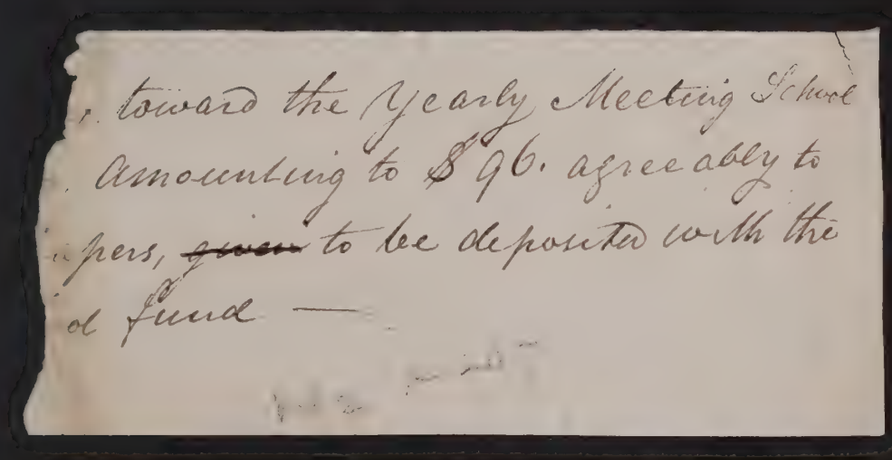
At a Meeting for Sufferings held in New York the 12th Month. 1806. — Our Clerk informs us, that he hath received a communication from a member of the [illegible] for


K1145
1793

of the Boston Meeting House Lot, Report, that from conversa-
tions they have had with Members of Salem Monthly Meet-
who have appeared to represent the views of said Meeting
in this case, they think there is a fair prospect that circum-
stances which have hitherto prevented the sale of the Lot and
the purchase of another, to mutual satisfaction, will be
removed; they therefore recommend to the Meeting for Sufferings,
that should a Sale be effected, and another Lot procured
in conformity with the former Minutes of this Meeting
the present Committee, or another to be appointed for that
purpose, be authorized to build a suitable Meeting House
thereon, for the accommodation of Friends — And as Friends
of Salem Monthly Meeting, have expended considerable sums
of money in recovering possession of the Lot to said Lot,
under the direction of this Meeting, & will be at other ex-

2[illegible]

This Meeting having had the subject under consideration
proposes to the Yearly Meeting the appointment of a committee
which may on behalf of the Yearly Meeting visit Friends
from other Yearly Meetings who may be led to visit us
when travelling in the service of Truth and assistance
as the Committee may from time to time find ~~deem~~ needful
and proper -


. toward the Yearly Meeting School
. amounting to $96. agreeably to
papers, ~~given~~ to be deposited with the
ol fund ——

recognised. This being the case, your Memorialists were encouraged to hope, that a State which has so long justly, not only acknowledged the Principle, but protected the rights of Conscience in reference to learning the art of war, would continue its protection, and thus not leave a class of their fellow Citizens liable to suffer by fines & forfeitures, for not performing services, which, from a solemn apprehension of duty to God, they feel themselves restrained from rendering.

language of [illegible]
[illegible] in our minds, one
[illegible] engaged to visit museums [illegible]

"Or employment of legal Counsel".
This I apprehend cannot consistently be extended farther, than to obtain a legal construction of the operation of the Bill provided it became a Law — not as an advocate to plead for our religious Testimony against War any more than for any other of our Christian Testimonies.

T. H.

Names of members of									
Moses Brown									
Wm Perry									
Rowland Green									
Thos Howland									
Benj.a Peebon									
~~Obadiah Davis~~ Deceased									
James Tucker									
Rowl.d Rathbun									
~~Edward Cobb~~ Deceased									
Wm.m Sharman.s Ex.r									
John Jones									
Elias Nichols									
Cornelius Howland									
Walter Allin									
Daniel Howland									
Francis Saber									
Wilson Cobb									
Joshua Meader									
Thomas Anthony									
John Warren									
Matthew Perrin									
Joshua Jenkins									
George Mitchel									
John Farnum									
John Brown									
Nathaniel Chase									
Daniel Johnson									
James N. Fry									
Nicholas Congdon									
Peter Osborne									
Wm Jenkins									
Jonathan Dennis									
Stephen Gould									
David Bellows									
Elijah Chase									
Oliver Chase									
Caleb Nichols									
[illegible]									
Percy Peck									
Wm Reynolds									
Prince Gardner									
Moses Farnum									
Moses Starkie									
Joseph Metcalf									
Andrew Nichols									
Ebenezer Pope									
Benj.a Fry									
Rob.t Fry of Bost.n									
Justin Meader									
Josiah Fryer									
Edward Wing									
John Gorsuch									
Arnold Congdon									
William Bassett									
George Howland									
Nathan Pope									

List of Names - 1833

1825
9 mo
1 80
At a Speical Meeting, of the Meeting for Sufferings, held at Providence 30th of 9 mo. 1825 - Present 16 members - -
Convened in conformity, and for the Purposes, expressed in the following Circular, Viz. It being stated by the Counsel employed to defend the Legacy, given by Sylvester Wilkes, concerning of a Farm in Pomfret, for the use of the Yearly Meeting Records
School, to be appropriated for the benefit of poor Friends Children, that it will be necessary to produce the Records of the Yearly Meeting in Court, to shew, that they have long been a regular Body, Meeting Annually to transact the Affairs of Society. And whereas the Committee appointed to manage the Defence, are desirous to obtain the consent of the Meeting for Sufferings to the removing of the Records, before they shall be under the necessity of producing them in Court - - The Clerk, is desired by us the Subscribers, to call a Special Meeting, of the Meeting for Sufferings, for the Purpose aforesaid, to meet at Providence on the 30th Instant, at the 9th hour in the morning, to act on this and such other matters as may come before them
Providence 8 mo 20 - 1825 -

Moses Brown
Wm Almy
Rowland Greene
Wm Jenkins
Daniel Haviland
Thos Anthony

To Thos Haviland Clerk of the Meetg for Sufferings

Circular

In conformity with the above request, the Members of the Meeting for Sufferings are desired to attend - Thos Haviland Clk

And the Subject being deliberately considered, it is thought advisable that said Committee, having Charge of the Defence in said Suit be authorized to take and use such Records of the Yearly Meeting, and of this Meeting, and of the School Committee, as they may find necessary in said Defence; they taking Special Care of their use, and safe keeping, leaving receipts therefor in the hands of those of whom they may be received; and to return them in due time, to their proper Places of Deposite -

This was done accordingly in presence of the Meeting

At our Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England, held on Rhode-Island, in the 6th month, 1828.

The following Minutes, adopted with the concurrence of the Women's Meeting, were directed to be forwarded to our several Quarterly and Monthly Meetings:

This Meeting having been introduced into a weighty consideration of the relation in which we stand towards Friends of some of the other Yearly Meetings on this continent, in which difficulties have lamentably prevailed, till separation has been the result; we have deemed it our indispensable duty to meet the exigencies of the occasion, by manifesting our unity with those Meetings which have continued steadfast in their adherence to the ancient order, discipline and faith of the Society, and our disunity with those who have receded therefrom; and it is therefore our conclusion, that no removal or other certificates be received from, or transmitted to, such Meetings as are known to have receded from the ancient foundation of the Society. And Friends are cautioned against opening our Meeting-Houses to any who have identified themselves with the bodies thus receding; and all our Members are advised not to attend meetings that may be held or appointed by such.

The annexed extract from the minutes of the Yearly Meeting held in Philadelphia, by adjournments from the 21st to the 28th of the 4th month last, shew what Meetings within its limits, are in unity with that Yearly Meeting.

Till some more certain information shall be received of the situation of the various Meetings within the compass of the Yearly Meeting of New-York, and other Yearly Meetings in which division, or a departure from those principles and practices which once united us together as one people, is unhappily manifesting itself, we recommend to all our subordinate Meetings, the exercise of a sound discretion in the premises. And should cases occur, in which any of our Meetings find it difficult to decide, they are requested to apply to the Meeting for Sufferings for its advice; and said Meeting is desired to give its attention to the subject, and render all the assistance herein, from time to time, that it may be qualified to afford.

From the Minutes of said Meeting,

ABRAHAM SHEARMAN, JUN. *Clerk.*

Extract from the Minutes of the Yearly Meeting of Friends, held in Philadelphia, by adjournments, from the 21st to the 28th, inclusive, of the 4th month, 1828—accompanying their Epistle of that date.

On considering the difficulty and embarrasment in which Meetings may be involved, for want of knowing whether certificates which may be produced to them are issued by Meetings in unity with us, several Friends are appointed in each of our Quarterly Meetings as correspondents, one or more of whom are to sign (in addition to the usual mode of signing,) all certificates of removal, and all other certificates or minutes given forth for Friends; and it is requested, in order that certificates may duly reach the Meetings to which they are directed, that they be addressed or sent to one of those Friends.—The names of the correspondents, with their respective places of residence, are subjoined.

Philadelphia Quarter—	Joseph Whitaker, *Muncy.*	
	John Lee, *Exeter.*	
	John Paul, Isaac W. Morris,	*Philadelphia.*
Abington Quarter—	Charles Shoemaker, *Abington.*	
	Jesse Spencer, *Gwynnedd.*	
	James Bell, *Stroudsburg.*	
Bucks Quarter—	Joseph Satterthwaite, *Falls Township,* Benjamin Wiggins, *Wrights Town,* John W. Balderson, *Solebury,*	Bucks Co. Pennsylvania.
Concord Quarter—	Joseph Rhoads, *Marple township,* Nathan Sharpless, *Concord,*	Delaware County, Pennsylvania.
	John Forsythe, *West Goshen,*	Chester County, Pennsylvania.
Caln Quarter—	Robert Moore, *Sadsbury,* Thomas Jackson, *Robeson,* George G. Ashbridge, *Downingtown,*	Chester Co. Pennsylvania.
Western Quarter—	William Bailey, *London Grove,* Edward B. Temple, *Parkersville Post Office,* Thomas Lambourn, *New Garden,*	Chester Co. Penn.
Burlington Quarter—	William Allison, *Burlington City,* William Newbold, *Upper Springfield,* Samuel Bunting, *Crosswicks, Burlington Co.* Daniel Parker, *Tuckerton,*	New-Jersey.
Haddonfield Quarter—	Barzillai Leeds, *Great Egg Harbour,* John Gill, *Haddonfield,* Joseph Matlack, *Moorestown,* Joshua Stokes, *Upper Evesham,*	New-Jersey.
Salem Quarter—	Samuel Webster, *Woodbury,* Caspar Wistar, *Salem,* George Bacon, *Greenwich,*	New-Jersey.
Shrewsbury & Rahway Quarter.	Benjamin Parker, *Shrewsbury,* Jacob Parker, *Rahway,* Nathan Vail, *Plainfield,*	New-Jersey.

Minutes of
N. England D. Mag.
Con: 1828.

Sufferings in New England, And who was one of
a Committee to correspond, with this Meeting on a
proposition for uniting in a Discipline as near as circum-
stances may admit. And that on behalf of the Committee
& by direction of their Meeting, he had sent for our
acceptance, a copy of their Discipline as last revised, in
order that we might take such measures as might be judged
proper to effect so desirable a work —

In giving attention to the subject we think it right
to unfold a little, the prospect, which opens in our view.

That however desirable it is, that we approach as near as
well may be, to a similarity of Discipline, yet there are
diverse considerations that occur, to render it most wise, and
prudent, to step cautiously in the work, and that we
may only move therein as we may open with clearness;
and under present impressions do we apprehend, whether
we can do better, as a Meeting for Sufferings, than as way
may open, give attention to the Discipline of other Yearly
Meetings, in order to discover what may be expedient, with
a view of approaching toward the uniformity proposed (more
especially touching that part relative to the rights of members)
and as may appear right, communicate with our Yearly
Meeting thereon; This we may gradually progress towards
the point, which appears to have obtained ground in the mind
of many Friends —

The Clerk is directed to forward a
copy of this minute to the Meeting for Sufferings in New England

Taken from the minutes by

John Murray Jun. Clerk

The Monthly Meeting of Rhode Island is requested to make
the usual provision for the accomodation of the Yearly Meeting
and that Meeting is authorized to draw for Four hundred
Dollars on the Yearly Meetings treasurer on acco. of the expence
the amount of which they are desired to report, to a future
sitting of this Meeting. And the clerk is directed to forward
them, a copy of this minute —

1807 At a Meeting for Sufferings held at East Green-
wich the 6th. of 5th. Month 1807. Present Thirteen Mem-
bers. —

The Meeting deliberated on divers subjects
relative to the concerns of Society, none of which appear'd
sufficiently to enter on our minutes. —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at
Portsmouth the 13th. 6mo. 1807

Present Twenty Members.

It is concluded to have 2500 printed Copies of the
Letter written on our deceased friend S. Scott
Sent to us, concluded to publish, & that Wm. Hotchkin &
Thomas Arnold be appointed to procure the same
superintend the press, and report when accomplished
with the Amount of the expense. —

This Meeting adjourns to the close of the Yearly
Meeting. —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at the close of the
Yearly Meeting the 12th. of 6th. Month 1807 present all the
Members then in Town being augmented by the
Sale Quarterly Meeting Namely Elisha Thornton,
William Wing, William Hotchkin, Moses Brown,
David Buffum, Howland Crary, Micajah Collins,
Caleb Mitchell, Paul Hazard, Thomas Arnold,
James Barker, Sylvester Dicks, Joseph Harris, David
Anthony, William Peckham, Matthew Pierce-low,
Richard Mitchell, Obadiah Williams, James Tucker
William Buffum, Rich. Mowry, Walter Allen,
Benj. Crabb, Sam. Thurston, Obadiah Davis,
Moses Brown, David Mitchell, Clarke Rodman,
Daniel Howland, James Smith. —

William Hotchkin is appointed clerk for this time
It is concluded that our Meetings for the ensuing year

1804

be held at the 3d hour on the days of the Select Meeting
Quarterly, at Portsmouth in the 8th Month at New Bedford
in the 12th Month, at Providence in the 2d Month, at
Greenwich in the 5th Month, and on the day of the
Select Yearly Meeting at Portsmouth at the 3d hour —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Portsmouth
the 5th of 8th Month 1804. Present Fourteen Members

William Rotch Junr is appointed Clerk for the Year

The Accounts are rendered from Rhode Island Monthly
Meeting with a Copy of a minute from that Meeting
by which it appears there is a balance due thereof for
Recruissions made for Friends at our last yearly Meeting
of $192.75/100 - for which the Clerk is directed to draw upon
the Yearly Meetings Treasurer in favour of Sam.l Hunston —

A Book is now containing some thoughts concerning the
Qualifications proper for an Elder in the Church of Christ,
presented by our Friend Walter Mitchell was read & being
deliberately considered we leave him at Liberty to print the
same printed at Isaac Wardman's Sam.l Hunston & Abraham
Williams, and authorized to render him such Assistance
in disposing thereof as he may desire —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at New Bedford
10th of 12th Month 1804 Present 11 Members —

The Committee appointed in the 6th Mo. reports they
have procured printed 2500 Copies of Job Scott's Letters &
have delivered a Bill of the Cost from Abraham Shearman Jr
Amounts $120 - which the Clerk is desired to draw upon
the Treasurer for & pay the same

It having appeared to this Meeting that the doctrine
and Remarks contained in the Letters of our deceased friend
Job Scott recently printed will be desirable to have
generally in our Yearly Meeting the Clerk is desired to

procured 400 Copies to each of our Quarterly Meetings the Meetings are requested to dispose of them in such manner as they may think best, and also to remit to the ye Meeting the amount at Six Cents each of such as they may so dispose of. And they are directed to reduce such surplus as may remain on hand.

The Printed Epistles from the Yearly Meeting of Friends in London for the present was read & approbation and Elisha Thornton & William Robb are appointed to have 2500 Copies printed & distributed them to the Monthly Meetings as usual & report to this Meeting the expence.

The following extract from the Minutes of the Yearly Meeting was now read. It is recommended to the Meeting for Sufferings as may be best to examine the Discipline of Friends of the Neighbouring Yearly Meetings & if on their judgment any useful improvements may be made as ours they are to report the same to this Meeting next year which having claimed our attention at this time, and it appearing to us that some alterations may be made from a review of our own Discipline and taking a comparative view of that of other Yearly Meetings, by which a digest may be formed more simple and clear for the use of society, in connection with the consideration that the last edition of our Extracts are out of print and that it is difficult for some of our Monthly Meetings to procure a Copy thereof. We therefore appoint Thos. Arnold, William Almy, Daniel Anthony, Benjamin Rathbun, David Buffum, Elisha Thornton, Rowland Greene & William Robb jun. to attend

1808 to that subject as may open and if it appears to them, that the improvement in the view of Friends may be made; they are desired to prepare & propose the same to our next Meeting —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence the 3d of 2d Month 1808 Present Twenty three Members

An account was received from Rhode Island Monthly Meeting of the suffering of Sixteen of their Members by Distraint for Military fines & Costs estimated at $129.74/100

Estimate of fines, part of which including Costs $42.8 which is directed to be recorded in a Book to be provided for that purpose —

The Committee appointed to have the London Epistle reprinted inform they have had 2500 Copies printed; the Costs whereof is Fifty Dollars — The Clerk is desired to draw on the Treasurer for that sum & pay the same —

The Committee appointed at last Yearly Meeting to revise the Discipline report, that they have been engaged therein, but are not ready prepared to lay before this Meeting the result of their labours & Moses Brown & Samuel Thurston are appointed to join them therein

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at East Greenwich the 4th of 3d Month 1808 —

Present Sixteen Members —

The Clerk of this Meeting being absent Benj. Jacobs is appointed for this time —

The Committee appointed to revise the Discipline report that they have made further progress therein but have not fully accomplished that service they are directed to continue their attention to the subject and report at a future sitting of this Meeting —

The Monthly Meeting of Rhode Island are

8 mo. desired to make the necessary provision for the Accommodation of our next yearly Meeting and that Monthly Meeting is authorized to draw on the Yearly Meeting's Treasury for Four Hundred Dollars towards the same and report thereof to a future Meeting and the Clerk is directed to furnish said Monthly Meeting with a Copy of this Minute.

6 mo. At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Portsmouth the 9th of 6 mo. 1808. Present twenty five members, We have also at this time the company of our friends Evan Thomas & John McKim from Baltimore.

The committee to whom was confided the revisal of our Discipline & comparing the same with that of other yearly Meetings, have made considerable progress therein but not so far completed it, as to lay any report before this Meeting, they are desired to pay further attention to that subject, and as soon as may be report the result of their labours to a future Meeting.

This Meeting adjourns to the close of the Yearly Meeting

At a Meeting for Sufferings the 15th of 6 Mo. 1808. Present 28 Members.

The Yearly Meeting having added to this Meeting the following Friends. Viz John Casey, Sam. Rodman, Moses Sleeper, Sam. T. Hussey, Cornelius Howland & Thomas Howland, they are here entered by the Authority of that Meet.

It is concluded that our Meetings for the ensuing Year be held as follows. At the third hour on the days of the Select Quarterly Meetings at Portsmouth in the 8th M. at New Bedford in the 12th M. at Providence in the 2d. at East Greenwich in the 5th M. And at the 3 hour on the day of the Yearly Select Meeting at Portsmouth in the 6th Month

6m: Samuel Rodman is appointed Clerk to this Meeting for the ensuing Year —

Samuel Rodman & Thos Howland are appointed to join the Committee who have the care of revising the discipline —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Portsmouth the 3d of the 8th Month 1808. present 13 Members.

4m° We receive an Account from Rhode Island Monthly Meeting of the expence attending the last Yearly Meeting amounting to $533 23/100 with a copy of a minute from said Mo Meeting authorizing Richard Mitchell to receive the balance thereof One Hundred Thirty three Dolls & Ninety three Cents. Which being approved. the Clerk is directed to give an order on the Treasr of the Yearly Meeting therefor —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Newport the 8th of the 12th Month 1808. present 17. Members. The Clerk being absent, Thomas Denni is appointed Clerk for the day —

The London Epistle of this year was received and read to our satisfaction & Brethren Howland & Mitchell & Jno Jones are appointed to have 2500 Copies printed & sent to the several Quarterly Meetings & to the Monthly Meetings where opportunities offer —

Adjourned to the 2d hour this evening —

Met by Adjournment —

The Committee for the Revisal of the Discipline have spent some days which have occupied their & the forenoon sitting of this Meeting — Adjourned to the 6th hour to morrow evening

1808 12m°

Met by adjournment present the same as Yesterday with the addition of the Clerk. The time of this sitting was satisfactorily occupied in examining the revisal of the Discipline presented to the Meeting by the Committee thereon. —

1809 2m°

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence the 1st of the 2d M. 1809. Present 21 Members —

We have also at this time the Company of our friends Daniel Quanby & Thomas Stringman from Nine partme

Will^m Rotch jun. reports that he with Cornelius Howlas have procured 2700 Epistles printed the number of 2500. directed at last Meeting, being thought by them insufficien for the purpose intended; The Cost of which being Fifty fo Dollars the Clk is directed to give an order on the Yearly Meetings Treasurer for the Same. Continued the remain- ing part of the Sitting in examining the revisal of Dis Cipline presented to the Meeting by the Committee —

Adjourned to the 11th hour on Sixth day morning.

Met by adjournment, present 15 Members. —

Spent the time of this sitting in revising the Discipli

our friend Richard Jordan from Hartford being pres

Adjourned to the 3d hour this afternoon —

Met by Adjournment, present 15 Members. Time Spent in revising the Discipline —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at East Gre wich the 3d of the 5th Month 1809. Present 17 Member

The Monthly Meeting of Rhode Island is requested to make provision for the accomodation of the ensuing Yearly Meeting. And that Monthly Meetings are authoriz to draw on the Yearly Meetings Treasurer for Four Hundr dollars towards the expence thereof. of which they are to furnish an Account when ascertained. And the Clerk directed to furnish that Meeting with a copy of the minu

m°.

Spent the remainder of this sitting in reviewing Articles of Discipline — Adjourned to the 3d hour on the Sixth day preceding the Yearly Meeting at Portsmouth of which the Clerk is desired to inform the distant Members of this Meeting that are now absent.

6. Mo 9th Met by adjournment, present 94 Members Spent the time of this Sitting in reviewing Articles of Discipline —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Portsmouth the 10th day of 6. Month 1809. Present 30 Members

This Sitting having been occupied in discussing Articles. the alterations that were thought necessary having been made. the same are directed to be laid before the Yearly Meeting — Adjourned to the close of the Yearly Meeting —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Newport the 15th of 6 Month 1809. Present 27 Members —

It is concluded at this Meeting that for the ensuing year, Our Meetings be held on the days of the Select Quarterly Meetings, at Portsmouth on the 8th month, New Bedford on the 12. Month Providence on the 2d Month Eat East Greenwich on the 5th Month. And at Portsmouth on the day of the Select Yearly Meeting in the 6 Month, Viz at the 3d hour in the Afternoon —

The Yearly Meeting having approved of the revision of the Discipline, & Confided to the care of those Meet on the printing thereof, — William Rotch Jr Cornelius Howland, & Sam.l Rodman are appointed to procure 300 Copies, and report the expence of them when accomplished —

1809 8mo

At a Mo. Meeting for Sufferings held at Sandwich the 2d. of the 8th. Month 1809. Present 18 Members

William Rotch Jr. Moses Brown, William Hunt & Sam.l Rodman are appointed to prepare a title page & preface to the book of Discipline now printing & present it at the adjournment of this Meeting

A copy of a minute from Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting was presented with an Account of the expence of moving for the accomodation of the last yearly Meeting, Amounting to $103.72 leaving a balance of $23.72 due to said Monthly Meeting, which this meeting authorizes Richard Mitchell to receive, It being approved by this Meeting the Clerk is directed to draw on the Yearly Meetings treasurer for said balance

The Committee appointed to procure 300 copies of the Discipline printed are desired to distribute to each Quarterly Meeting a sufficient Number to accomodate each Particular & Preparative Meeting with two books & each Select Meeting with one as soon as may be after they are completed —

Adjourned to the Ninth hour to morrow morning,

At Meeting according to Adjournment. present 18 Members

The Committee appointed yesterday presented an Essay of a title page & Introduction to the book of Discipline which was read & accepted —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at New Bedford the 7th. of 12 Month. 1809.

Present 11 Members

The Committee to procure the Discipline printed

Report.

the accomplishment of that power And the distribution of the books, so far as Circumstances have prescribed & the knowledge of the necessary number for each Meeting ascertained — An Account of the expence thereof with 200 Select & 600 Monthly Meeting Queries, being Two hundred Eighty two & an half dollars, according to the Printer. 96 Sherman Jun Account. The Clerk is directed to draw an Order on the treasurer of the Yearly Meeting in his favor for the Amount —

There being Journal books wanted or hard for by the Yearly Meeting, Desired for Sale, or distribution in the case of individuals that are not on hand

In order to more knowledge of the number & description, the Clerk is desired to attend to the Subject, and make report at our next Meeting —

1810 9m.

At a Meeting for Sufferings, held at Providence the 31st of the 8th Month 1810. Present 23 Members

The Clerk reported that he had collected knowledge of some of the books belonging to the Yearly Meeting, and it being probable there are others in the hands of some friends who have not had knowledge of the Account of them being required a further continuance of his care is desired

The Clerk is directed to forward a book of Discipline to the Yearly Meeting at London & each of the Quarterly Meetings of Friends on this Continent & report when accomplished — This Meeting having fully taken into consideration that the distribution of Religious books may be useful in some parts where the inhabitants have had little knowledge of our Society & its principles & Christian Doctrine

1810 1m° David Buffum. William Rotch Jun.r & Daniel Anthony to make use of such as we have on hand and to collect others that in their judgements may be most equally distributed to such places & persons where there is an openness to receive them and report to a future Meeting —— The London Yearly Epistle of last year was read & ordered to be published which Will Rotch is desired to have printed & furnish each Quarterly Meeting with a due proportion thereof —

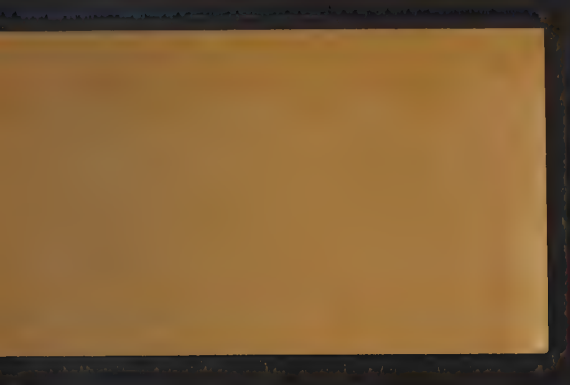
5m° At a Meeting for Sufferings held at East Greenwich the 2.d of 5 month 1810. Present 19 Members

An Account was presented from Abraham Shearman Jr. of the Printing a 100 London Epistles Amount $1.50/100, which the Clerk is directed to draw on the Quarterly Meetings Treasurer for in favor of Wm Rotch Jun.r who returns their distribution according to the minute of our last Meeting —

The Monthly Meeting of Rhode Island is required to make provision for the accommodation of the ensuing Yearly Meeting & hereby authorized to draw on the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting for Five Hundred Dollars toward defraying the expense thereof, which that Monthly Meeting is desired to render an account of when the whole is ascertained — And the Clerk is directed to forward a Copy of this minute thereto —

6m° At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Portsmouth the 9.th of the 6 Month 1810 Present 21 Members.

The Committee appointed at our Meeting on the first Month last to distribute Religious Books & Tracts



1810 [illegible] to the Subject, One that they have desire
Collected about 160 pounds Books & Pamphlets A part of
which amounting to $3 8/100 were purchased which they
is directed to order payment for. And this Meeting
considering that further usefulness may be derived from
continuing said Committee with the Addition of Thomas
Arnold, Rowland Greene & Micajah Collins —

Adjourned to the close of the Yearly Meeting

8th M. 13th of 6th Month. Met According to Adjournment
present 20 Members — It is concluded
that our Meetings for the ensuing be held as they
were last year Viz. On the days of the Select
Quarterly Meetings at Portsmouth in the Eighth
Month, at Newport & Dartmouth in the Ninth Month
Providence in the Second Month & last Greenwich in the Fifth Month And at Portsmouth
on the day of the Select Yearly Meeting in the 6th
Month All at the usual hour in the Afternoon

8mo. A Monthly Meeting for Sufferings held at Portsmouth the 1st of the 8th Month 1810 Present 4
members. — A copy of a minute from Rhode
Island Monthly Meeting with an account of the ex-
pences in making provision for the accomodation of
Friends at the Yearly Meeting, were received by which
it appears that the expence amounted to $320 56/100 leaving
a balance of $20 56/100 due to said meeting, which their
minute authorizes Benjamin Freeborn to receive, and
being approved the Clerk is directed to give him an
order on the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting for the

1810. 12 mo. 159

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence
the 13th of 12 Month 1810. present 12 Members —
The Clerk of this Meeting being absent Thos
Howland is appointed Clerk for this time —

Some Manuscripts of our deceased friend Mary
Mitchell were produced to this Meeting in conformity to her requ
some of which being read herein. they were all committed to.
Thomas Arnold, William Rotch Jun. & Benjamin Freeborn
& Thomas Howland, to examine and after having arrange
them, to lay them before our next Sitting —

Adjourned to the 9th hour to morrow Afternoon —

14th day Met by adjournment. present 11 Members

The Committee appointed yesterday to examine and
arrange the Manuscripts of our deceased friend Mary
Mitchell presented them, which appearing after being previ
ously read & Solidly considered, to be worthy of publication
Elisha Thornton. William Rotch Jun. Thomas Arnold
Joseph Harris. & Samuel Thurston. are appointed to
select & prepare such parts as may in their judgment be
1811 usefully printed & report the same to our next Meeting
2m°

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence
the 6th of the 2d Month 1811. present 10 Members —
The Clerk being absent Benj" Freeborn is
appointed Clerk for this time —

The printed General Epistle from the Yearly Meeting
in London for 1810 was received & read in this Meeting. &
Thomas Arnold is appointed to procure 120 copies printed
distribute them to the General Quarterly Meetings and
present an Account of the expense to a future Meeting —

Adjourned to the close of the Quarterly Meeting to Monon
7th day Met According to Adjournment, present 13 Members.
The papers of this Meeting not being present owing to their

1811 apprehend to the difficulty of travelling prevents our having recourse to them for further business at this time —

11th At a Meeting for Sufferings held at East Greenwich the 1st of the 5th Month 1811. Present 22 Members —

The Committee appointed in the 12th Month to arrange & prepare certain manuscripts of our beloved friend Mary Mitchell deceased. having been prevented by the inclemency of the weather from Meeting at the time they had appointed to put them in the order necessary to be laid before this Meeting the business is referred to our next Meeting —

The following report. referred from Our last Yearly Meeting to the consideration of this being read viz!

According to appointment we have taken into consideration the Manner of accomodating Friends, who attend the Yearly Meeting, And are united in sentiment that the mode adopted to accomplish that purpose for the present year by which a very large number of friends are provided for in one house, is attended with much inconveniency, and many disadvantageous circumstances:

We are therefore of Opinion that it will be necessary for more houses to be procured where friends may receive entertainment, And that not any more be placed together than can be suitably accomodated — We are further of opinion that it will be preferable to procure friends houses. if it can be done, as there are a number of young Friends, who attend the Yearly Meeting. and who would be more safely situated in friends families, than in families out of society. But provided Friends houses sufficient to accomodate those who may attend cannot be obtained and other houses must be procured, We have no doubt that a tender attention will be extended towards them in a situation thus detached from friends in such manner as the Yearly Me-

5 mo. Meeting may think proper will be attended with usefulness — Signed in behalf of the Committee

Jonathan Howry.

It is concluded that the opinion manifested therein of several houses being procured for the Accomodation of such Friends, as may attend the next Yearly Meeting, will be the most eligible that can be adopted, And in order to promote the concern for the establishment of good order from which the report originated, It is recommended to the representatives from the several Quarterly Meetings who will have Knowledge of their Members to Unite their care with the committee of Friends of Rhode Island Monthly Meeting who may have the Superintendance of the houses to be provided in preserving a becoming behavior that may promote the reputation of Society; And the particular attention of Rhode Island Monthly Meeting in making the customary provision is requested hereto, And that Meeting is authorized to draw on the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting for Five hundred dollars toward defraying the expences hereof, of which they are desired to furnish an Account when accomplished; And the Clerk is directed to furnish Rhode Island Monthly Meeting with a copy of this minute —

The treasurer of the Yearly Meeting School fund having presented an Account thereof. Joseph Harris. Thomas Arnold & Samuel Rodman, are appointed to examine it, and report thereon to our next Meeting —

6 mo. At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Portsmouth the 15th of the 6th Month 1811 —

Present 28 Members.

811

The Committee appointed to examine & arrange the Acco of the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting School fund made the following report Viz.

To the Meeting for Sufferings.

Agreeably to appointment. We have attended to the adjustment of the account of the Yearly Meeting School fund in the hands of Moses Brown Treasurer thereof, and find its amount to be Seven thousand Six hundred Ninety nine dollars & Seventy four Cents to the first day of the present Year, which amount is comprized in Mortgages & Notes which we have inspected & find them to correspond herewith

Providence 5m. 3. 1811

Thomas Arnold
Joseph Harris
Sam. Rodman

Manuscripts of M. M.

The Committee Appointed to examine & arrange the manuscripts of our deceased Friend Mary Mitchell presented such of them as they have prepared, part of which have been read in this Meeting; the remainder are deferred to a future sitting — We have Acceptably at this Meeting the company of our Friends, Oliver Paxson & Benjamin White from Pennsylvania, Richard Mott & his companion Valentine Hicks, from New York Yearly Meetings — Adjourned to the close of the Yearly Meeting at Newport —

19th of 6th Month met by Adjournment. present 19 members

It is concluded that our Meetings for the Year ensuing be held on the days of the Select Quarterly Meetings at Portsmouth in the 3d Month. New Bedford in the 12th Month. at Providence in the 2d at East Greenwich in the 5th And at Portsmouth on the day of the

1811 Yearly Meeting all at the Meeting house in the Afternoo
7 M. At our Meeting for Sufferings held at Sout
the 31st of the 7th Month 1811. present 18 Members —

We received a copy of a minute from Rhode I
Monthly Meeting with an Account of the expenses to
the Accomodation of Friends at the late Yearly Meet
amounting to $798.25. leaving a balance after deduct
$500 paid in advance of $298.25. which the Clerk is di
rected to draw on the Yearly Meetings treasurer for in fa
of Benj Freeborn. who is appointed by that M° Meeti
to receive the same — The remainder of this
Sitting was occupied in reading some of the reported
Manuscripts of our deceased friend Alan Mitchell
and in treating upon the mode of brinaing the business to a c
And our friends Moses Brown & Samuel Rodman. a
now added to the Committee who joined last 12 Month

We have had acceptably at this Meeting the com
pany of our friends Nathan Hunt & Matthew Coffin; his
companion from North Carolina —

At our Meeting for Sufferings held at New
12 M. Bedford the 4th of the 12th Month 1811 present 16 Mem

Adjourned to the 6th hour to morrow afternoon.

Met According to Adjournment. present the Same Me
bers. as yesterday. — This & the Sitting of yesterday
have been occupied in reading part of Mosheims Eccleasa
history in which the character & Principles of our Ancient
friends are grossly misrepresented, Which history is now
reprinting, And this Meeting believing it encumbent o
them to prevent as far as may be practicable, its pernicio
effects are deliberating upon the means therefor —

Adjourned to the 9th hour to morrow Morning.

1811 Met according to adjournment present 15 Members

At this sitting we resumed the consideration of the subject of Mosheims history, And having read Joseph Gurney Bevans reputation of those misrepresentations as well as the production of another friend applicable thereto. of which this Meeting approves, And from which we apprehend a Selection of such parts as have been particularly designated by this Meeting may be made suited to the present occasion, We appoint Thomas Arnold. Elisha Thornton, William Rotch Jun & Thomas Howland to review & make such Selection from them as may be best adapted to preserve the true character of our friends & principles; to Consult with the present editor upon the manner in which such Selection may be annexed to the edition he is now printing. Should he consent to insert it, And to compensate him for the extra expense that may attend this contemplated addition to his Work:—

The Committee upon the Manuscripts of our dec.d friend Mary Mitchell, not being prepared with a decisive report the subject is referd under their care, to our next meeting.

Copies of the minutes of the last Yearly Meeting with the report of the Committee thereto relative to the School fund, recommending the application of the interest of about $8000 (which included the fund & interest to that period) by this Meeting, According to the original intention of the donors, with such additions as might be derived from Subscriptions from the Quarterly & Monthly Meetings, Were read & considered, And as no Subscriptions appear to have been made in consequence of the Yearly Meetings recommendation. And the interest alluded to being inadequate to the object of a School that would usefully call the attention of this Meeting. We See no way that the recommendation can at present be carried into effect

1812 2d M. At Our Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence the 5th of the 2d Month 1812 present 18 Members —

Conferrd upon the Concerns of Society within the Verge of this Meeting and Adjourned to the 10th hour on Sixth day Morning — 2 M. 7th. Met by Adjournment present 18 Members — The London printed Epistle of last year was read, And in order more fully to diffuse the Knowledge of its salutary contents. William Rotch Jun & Samel Rodman, are appointed to have 2500 copies printed & forwarded to the respective Quarterly & Monthly Meetings composing the Yearly Meeting —

Adjourned to half past two Oclock this Afternoon —

Met by Adjournment present 15 Members —

Both Sittings of this day have been improved in examining the Manuscripts of our deceased friend Mary Mitchell selected by the Committee for the approbation of the Meeting. Of which one that contains an Account of the early part of her life & convincement. And another composed of Soliloquies or Ejaculations have been agreed to as useful, for publication which the Committee are desired to prepare for the press.

And the remainder which have been read in this Meeting they are desired to make a further Selection from. & present them at our next Meeting —

5th M. At Our Meeting for Sufferings held at East Greenwich the 6th of the 3d Month 1812 present 18 Members —

The Committee who had the care of the Manuscripts of our deceased friend Mary Mitchell returned to this Meeting prepared for the press. The portions described in the minute of last Meeting — The Committee appointed in the 12th Month last to make a Selection from the Exposition of Mosheims Misrepresentation of Friends. & to treat with the Printer respecting its insertion in the history he is reprinting. Report that they have performed that Service and

1812 that Isaac are annexed to the edition of 1000 Sets of the said
History then printing 56 pages of their preparing. And that
they have procured 300 Copies in pamphlets in addition there-
to for the use of friends. The Cost of which agreeable to the
Printers bill is $110 —

The Committee to procure 2500 Copies of the London
Yearly Epistle printed & distributed to the respective Meetings
report its performance with the Printers bill of $50 therefor.
Which with the $110 in the foregoing Minute the Clerk is
directed to draw on the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting for.

Friends of Rhode Island Monthly Meeting are
requested to make the usual provision for the accomodation
of the ensuing Yearly Meeting. And that Monthly Meeting
is hereby Authorized to draw on the Yearly Meetings Trea-
surer for Five hundred Dollars towards defraying the expense
thereof. Of which they are desired to furnish an Account
when accomplished. And the Clerk is directed to
furnish that Meeting with a copy of this Minute —

Jn.: A Quarterly Meeting for Sufferings held at Portsmouth
Journal of Mitchell the 13th of the 6th Month 1812 present 26. Members

This Sitting has been occupied in reading the journal
of our deceased friend Mary Mitchell, And the testimonies
concerning her, given forth by Rhode Island & Nantucket
North District Monthly Meetings, Which being considered
& the opinion of the Meeting expressed that the two Tes-
timonies, may prove a useful addition to the portions of
her writings heretofore concluded to be printed. The Com-
mittee to which William Hoag is now added, are desired
to prepare them for the press & report at our next Meeting.

Adjourned to the close of the Yearly Meeting

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At our Meeting for Sufferings held at Newp
the 17th of 6th Month 1812. Present 29 Members

It is concluded that our Meetings for the ens
ensuing be held as they were last year, both as respe
Days & the time of Meeting

At our Meeting for Sufferings held
at Portsmouth the 5th of the 8th Month 1812
Present 18 Members

We received a copy of a minute from Rhod
Island Monthly Meeting dated 30th of last Month
with an Account Stating the expense for the accom
dation of the last Yearly Meeting to be Seven hun
dred thirty Nine Dollars & Thirty Cents, leaving a
balance of $239. 30/100 due, which the Clerk is direc
to draw an order
on the Yearly Meetings Treasurer for, in favor of Sa
Thurston, who is appointed by said minute to rece
it —

The following copy of a minut
from the Yearly Meeting was received viz —

The Committee appointed to take into co
School sideration the situation of the School Fund m
the following report. Your Committee a
pointed yesterday, having this morning met and
considerd of the subject of their appointment, th
proper to submit the following report to the consid
ation of the Yearly Meeting viz.

We think it a very desirable thing, for
School to be opened, and that as speedily as ma
be under the government and superintendance of

the

Meeting for Sufferings, that Meeting to have liberty
School to communicate the interest that has arisen, or may
arise, on the original subscriptions, and to recom-
mend subscriptions for the purpose of establishing
& keeping up a Yearly Meeting School, according
to the original constitution and condition of said
Subscriptions — Signed on behalf of the Comm.te
Newport 17.th of 6m.o 1812. David Buffum.

Which is accepted & recommended to the attention of
the Meeting for Sufferings. Extract from the minutes
of the Yearly Meeting held at Newport from the 14.th
to the 17.th of 6 Month 1812. Sam.l Rodman Clk

to the Meeting this year
Which being deliberated, and a free discussion had
upon the Subject, We appoint Moses Brown, Thomas
Arnold, Walter Allen, Will.m Rotch Jun. David
Buffum & Thomas Rodman to take it under their
School consideration, to make enquiry for an accomodation
to keep a School at, and for suitable Tutors and
Superintendants, & such other matters as they may
think useful in promoting the object of the Yearly
Meeting, and make report thereof at our next Meeting.

Adjourned to the 4.th hour to morrow morning.

8 m.o 6. Met according to adjournment.

Present 15 Members. The testimonies
All. of Rhode Island & Nantucket Mo.s Meetings concern-
Corrected ing our deceased friend Mary Mitchell, were read
from and by the Committee with small omissions of parts
wherein there appeard too great a comendation, to admit
the entire publication of them useful, which was
approved. The Committee are desired to have them
transcribed

Revised with those parts of her revision she is to be
advised upon, the manner of which is left to their
discretion. Report of which, & the expense to be
reported at our next Meeting.

At our Meeting for Sufferings held at
New Bedford the 2d of the 12th Month 1812
present Fourteen Members

We received the London printed Epistle of this
year, which was read. And from a belief that the sal-
utary contents thereof may be usefully circulated amon
our members. Samuel Rodman & Cornelius Howland
are appointed to have Twenty five hundred copies print-
ed & forwarded to the respective Quarterly Meetings.

The Committee appointed at our last
Meeting to take into consideration the subject of apply-
School the interest that has arisen on the principal of the
Yearly Meeting School fund not being prepared to
report thereon. It is referrd under their care to our
next Meeting.

The Committee appointed to have the care
of printing the writings of our deceased friend Ma-
Mitchell report the work to be in progress.

At our Meeting for Sufferings held at Dover
the 3d of the 2d Month 1813. present Twenty one Memb
The Clerk being absent, Thomas Arnold is
appointed Clerk for this time.

The Subject of the Yearly Meeting School com-
mit-

under consideration. by some information of the proceedings of the Committee upon that subject. and after some discussion it is referd under the care of the same committee to our next Meeting

At our Meeting for sufferings held at East Greenwich the 5th of the 5th Month 1813 —

Present Nineteen Members. —

The Committee appointed in the 12th month to procure the printing and attend to the distribution of 2500 copies of the London General Epistle, report their accomplishment with the printers bill of Fifty Dollars. —

The Committee who had the care of printing the writings of our dec'd friend Hannah Mitchell also report their completion in the expense of Printing and binding One Thousand as bill presented is two hundred fifty five Dollars. for which Sum with the expense of printing the Epistles. the Clerk is authorized to draw on the Yearly Meetings Treasurer

In the equal and early distribution of the books above mentioned It is concluded that they be forwarded to a friend in each Quarterly Meeting to be disposed of. the amount thereof to be accounted for to the yearly meetings treasurer, and should any remain after the demand may be supplied. that they report an account of the number so remaining to the Clerk of this Meeting on or before the Meeting in the eighth Month next.

Sam. Hodgman is appointed to have the care thereof in Sandwich. Obadiah A Brown for Rhode Island. Walter Allen for Smithfield William Dean for Salem and Samuel Rathbill Hussey for Falmouth Quarterly Meetings, whom the Clerk is desired to inform of this appoint

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appointment and forward the books to them. of the number that may be sent to each. He is to inform our next Meeting the price of each book to be thirty Cents to defray the cost & expense of transportation.

The committee appointed to take into consideration the application of the interest of the yearly Meeting School fund, Report that since the renewed concern of last Yearly Meeting upon this subject. no way has appeared to open in which they could proceed to effect the object of that meeting, in rendering it beneficial to Society at this period.— and considering the disastrous situation of this Section of the Country occasioned by a scanty harvest, and the present National calamity of War. it is thought advisable that the Committee be now released.—

School

Adjourned to the Ninth hour to morrow morning

6th day of 5month Met according to adjournment

Present Sixteen Members

This Meeting having for several years past made a general provision for the accomodation of friends during their attendance of the Yearly Meeting at Newport,

Provision for the accomodation of the Yearly Meeting

but finding it attended with inconveniencies, which have been exercising & uneasy to many friends. Has now concluded under present circumstances, and after solidly considering the Subject to make but a limited provision for the present year, to extend to those only, who may feel a concern to attend the Meeting, and apprehend themselves unable to defray their own expenses.— Friends, who have not sufficient knowledge of suitable places, where they may accommodate themselves

themselves as well as those for whom provision is made during the holding of the Yearly Meeting, are desired to apply to the Committee of Rhode Island Monthly for such information. — The Clerk is directed to furnish Rhode Island and Smithfield Quarterly Meetings. And such of the Monthly Meetings of Salem Sandwich and Falmouth quarters, as may [illegible] with copies of this minute. —

In conformity to the preceding minute Rhode Island Monthly Meeting is requested to take the care that may be necessary in ascertaining places of accomodation and giving information to such friends, as may require it. And the Clerk is directed to draw upon the Yearly Meetings treasurer for Three hundred Dollars in behalf of said Monthly toward defraying the expense that may accrue, the account of which is to be rendered to this Meeting. —

At our Meeting for sufferings held at Portsmouth the 12th. day of the 6th. Month 1813

Present Twenty seven Members —

The Clerk being absent William Rotch Jun. is appointed Clerk at this time. — No business appearing to be necessary to notice at this time, upon the minutes we adjourn to the close of the Yearly Meeting. —

At our Meeting for Sufferings held at Newport by adjournment the 17th. day of the 1st m. 1813

The Meeting again met and concluded that our Meetings for the Year ensuing be held at the usu-

times & places as last year—

At our Meeting for Sufferings held at Scitu-
ate the 4th of the 3d Month 1813

Present Nineteen Members

A minute of the Monthly Meeting of Rhode Island
dated the 29th of last Month is received, with an account
of the expense arising from the provision made for the accomo-
dation of the Yearly Meeting, by which it appears that
$220.6/100 has been expended for that purpose, leaving a bal-
ance of $79.24/100 remaining from the sum of $300 drawn
from the Yearly Meeting's treasury in the 5th month last
by order of this Meeting, which balance Samuel Thurston
is directed by the aforesaid minute to pay to the Year-
Meeting's treasurer—

The London General Epistle of this year was
received & read in this Meeting, and from a belief that
its contents may be usefully diffused among our mem-
throughout the Yearly Meeting, It is concluded to hav
printed 2500 copies for distribution and the Clerk is
appointed to have this number printed, and forwarded to h
Quarterly Meetings.—

At our Meeting for Sufferings held at Sa
Bedford the 1st of the 12th Month 1813

Present fifteen Members

The Clerk informs this Meeting that the 2500 copies
of the London Printed Epistle directed at our last Meet
have been distributed agreeably to the minute thereof.

The

amount of printing according to the bill exhibited being Fifty Dollars. he is authorized to draw for on the Treasurer by Meetings treasurer. —

Adjourned to the 6th hour to morrow evening —

12m: 2. Met by adjournment, present 14 Members —

This and a part of our last sitting has been occupied with a concern that led to the examination of some tracts published by individuals, not of our society, in support and illustrative of the Gospel principle of peace, And believing that the diffusion of such tracts, with an addition that may be compiled from the histories of the principles and practices of the Christians of the first and second Centuries may at this time, when our Country is suffering under the calamity of war meet with a cordial reception, and be read with interest and utility by many awakened, enquiring minds,

Our deliberations have resulted in encouraging friends, in their freedom to attend to their feelings upon the subject and proceed to the spreading of such tracts as have now had the approbation of the Meeting, referring the subject generally to our next Meeting —

1814 At our Meeting for Sufferings, held at Providence the 2d of the 2d Month 1814. present 23 Members

The subject referrd from our last Meeting relative to the printing and spreading of some approved tracts in support of the Gospel principle of peace, coming under consideration, And the Meeting being informed that arrangements are made by individuals for printing One thousand copies of tracts alluded to in the minute of reference Viz.

Extra-

Extracts from Clarkson's Portraiture concerning the practice & Principles of the Christians of the first and second centuries. a tract by J. Scott. and two Letters of Thomas Parsons and the same concern appearing to prevail at this time for an extension of the number, the subject is referred to an adjournment —

Adjourned to the 6th hour to morrow morning

2d mo 3d. Met by adjournment present 21. Members.

The subject that occupied our last sitting being resumed again considered - And this Meeting approves of the printing of any number that individuals of this Meeting are willing to promote. And an additional One thousand being agreed upon this principle. the Meeting being disposed in furtherance of the concern to give it their aid in a judicious distribution of the books, when the printing may be accomplished —

At our Meeting for Sufferings held at East Greenwich the 4th of the 5th Month 1814

Present eighteen Members

We received the following Letter viz.

The Meeting for Sufferings

Providence 4th of 5th Mo. 1814

Dear friends.

As my feeble state of health prevents my attending the Meeting at this time, I thought to inform you, that in the course of my confinement by bodily indisposition for some time past. the subject of the Yearly Meetings School has been renewedly brought under my consideration, and believing that a permanent institution for a guarded education of the rising generation will be a

Letter on said subject

promotive of their usefulness in society and the honor of truth. I have for the furtherance of these desirable objects, concluded to give a tract of land on the West part of my homestead farme, containing about Forty three Acres for the purpose of erecting suitable buildings for the boarding School thereon; Provided the Meeting should consider it an eligible situation, and conclude to carry into effect the establishment of the benevolent institution thereon. — If the Meeting should appoint a committee to view the ground, consider of the proposal and report their opinion to the next Meeting or Quarterly; which may be more generally attended, they can then act therein, as it shall appear to them best, for will however dispose of the proposal in this or any other way that appears to you best. — I am Treasurer of the School fund. I may for your information mention, that its present amount is about Nine thousand three hundred Dollars. With desires that this important subject may be considered, and proceeded in conformably to the mind of truth that we may hope for its blessing —

I conclude your affectionate friend.

A rough draft of the lot accompanies this — Hows Brown.

The foregoing letter being read and consideration given to its contents, We appoint David Buffum. Thomas Cowland, Sam.l Rodman. Thomas Arnold. Sylvester Wicks and Benjamin Freeborn. to view the ground, and report its eligibility for the purpose proposed to our next Meeting with such information as they may possess and obtain upon the subject generally —

The Meeting having under consideration the propriety

accomodation of the ensuing Yearly Meeting. And as the limited provision of last year may be considered by Friends, to be confined to that time only, we think it necessary to give this further information, that the circumstances that induced that conclusion still continue. And Friends are desired to regard the contents of this & Meeting's minute of last year upon this Subject, to which we refer them, for a government in their future attendance. And the Clerk is directed to forward copies of this minute to Rhode Island & Smithfield Quarterly Meetings, and such of the Monthly Meetings of the other Quarters as may be practicable.— Friends of Rhode Island Monthly Meeting are requested to take the care that may be necessary in providing places of accomodation and giving the information thereof to the Friends of the Yearly Meeting that may require it. And that Meeting is hereby authorized to draw on the Yearly Meeting Treasurer for Three hundred Dollars for that purpose, the account of its disposition to be rendered to a future Meeting.

At our Meeting for Sufferings held at Portsmouth the 11th. day of the Sixth Month 1814

Present Twenty Seven Members

The business that was expected to have come before this Meeting not being matured. It is concluded to adjourn to the close of the afternoon sitting of the Yearly Meeting at Portsmouth on Second day next.

The twelfth of Sixth Month, met according to Adjournment, present, Twenty Nine Members.

The committee appointed to view the Lot of Land proposed as a donation for a Yearly Meeting House upon the conditions expressed in our Friend Hows

1811 Brown's Letter of the 4th of last Month; Report as Follows.

The Committee appointed in case of the donation to the Yearly Meeting School, proposed by our Friend Moses Brown at the last sitting; have attended to their appointment, and have viewed the lot of land proposed to be given for that purpose; And are of opinion that it affords a pleasant and healthfull Scite to erect such a Building upon; That it contains about Six or Seven Acres of pretty valuable land, besides what the Donor proposes to take off. For his own use in a convenient time for the building if carried into effect; That it is situated about Three fourths of a Mile from the compact part of the Town of Providence near Friends Meeting House there, and about the same distance from the College; The lot contains a quantity of Stone suitable for a part of the building, and in addition to the proposed donation of Land, the owner has agreed to sell to his Farm adjoining for what Stone may be further wanted.

Signed in behalf of the Committee by — Samuel Rodman.

Which Report being read & considered, is accepted.

And altho the Subject of applying the School now has been committed to the direction of this Meeting by the Yearly Meeting, yet as we now view it, in a prospect that seems to promise more effect than has hitherto been experienced; And considering the importance of the subject, and desirous that it should be fully—before the Yearly Meeting, the aid of their deliberation and advice thereon.

Adjourned to the time of the Yearly Meeting

1814 Sixth Month 15 — Met by adjournment at Nicoms

Present Twenty Eight Members

This Meeting directs 150 Copies of a form for subscri-
to the Yearly Meeting schools fund to be printed. and for-
warded by the Clerk to the several Quarterly Meetings

It is concluded that our Meetings for the
year ensuing, be held on the days of the Select Quarter
Meetings, at Salem in the 8th Month New Bedford
in the Twelfth, at Providence in the Second. at East
Greenwich in the Fifth, and at Portsmouth. Rhode
Island on the day of the Select Yearly Meeting
all at the third hour. —

At our Meeting for Sufferings held at
Salem the 24th of 8th Months 1814

Present Ten Members —

The time of this Sitting has been occupied in
discussing several Subjects of interest to the Society but
nothing sufficiently matured to be entered upon the
minutes at this season —

At our Meeting for Sufferings held at
New Bedford the 30th of the 11th Month 1814

Present Sixteen Members

From a belief that a publication upon the subje
of Baptism might prove of use. the reading of a treati
upon that Subject by William Dell was proposed.

And

1814 being read from its clear illustration of the distinction between water and Spiritual baptism, was approved as being suitable for republication, which we refer to our next Meeting for further consideration —

1815 At our Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence the 1st. of the 2d Month 1815

Present thirteen Members.

The Clerk not being present Obadiah M. Brown is appointed Clerk for this time —

The Subject of reference at last Meeting upon the publication of the treatise on Baptism by William Dell, coming under consideration. It is the conclusion of this Meeting that an edition of the same be printed and Moses & Obadiah Brown Brown are appointed to consult with a printer on the Subject and encourage subscriptions by sending a copy of this minute to all our Monthly Meetings and report at next Meeting.

Rhode Island Monthly Meeting presented their Account of expense for the accomodation of the last Yearly Meeting by which it appears the amount is Two hundred eighty one Dollars Nineteen Cents and leaves a balance from the $300 advanced in the fifth last for this purpose of Eighteen Dollars and Eighty one Cents which has been paid to the Yearly Meetings treasurer —

At our Meeting for Sufferings held at East Greenwich the 3d of the 5th Month 1815

Present Seventeen Members —

The London Printed Epistle of last year was read and read to our satisfaction. And Five hundred copies being a Sufficient number to supply the several Meetings belonging to the Yearly Meeting it is concluded that the Clerk of this Meeting procure the printing, and take the necessary care for the distribution — The Committee appointed at our last Meeting to encourage the reprinting of Wm Dells treatise on Baptism. report that they have attended to the Subject and received Subscriptions amounting to about 2600 copies — It is therefore concluded to have Thirty five Hundred printed & Sam[l] Rodman is added to the Committee to aid herein if necessary —

The accomodation of the ensuing Yearly Meeting coming under consideration. The Clerk is directed to furnish friends of Rhode Island Monthly Meeting with a copy of this minute. requesting them to make the necessary provision, regarding the recommendation adopted in 1813. & 1814. and authorized a draught for Three hundred Dollars on the Yearly Meetings Treasurer on account of the contemplated expenditure. of which they are requested to render an Account at a future Meeting —

At our Meeting for Sufferings held at Portsmouth the 10th. of the Sixth Month 1815

Present Twenty seven Members

Subscriptions toward the increase of the Yearly Meeting School fund were at this time recorded from the following Monthly Meetings

some of them unconditional & annual on various conditions &c &c.

Schools Rhode Island $232. Castleton $361.50. $593.50
Salem $105. Providence $534.00 & $150.00 annually
Uxbridge $162. Dolton $220. Sibbick $56.
New Bedford $197.0. West Ind $30. Dover $100.
Uxbridge $290 Smithfield $253 .....
And $150.00 annually for five years from Providence.

Hapearing from the additional subscriptions already received for William Dickinson upon baptism that the number directed at our last meeting to be printed will not supply the demand the Committee are requested to enlarge the number of copies as they may judge necessary.

This Meeting having investigated the situation of friends Meeting house & believe it necessary that Trustees be appointed to receive a conveyance of the same that as the yearly Meeting has thereby appointed friends to that purpose. We recommend that suitable friends be appointed for that purpose at this time, and we think a more suitable accomodation for friends holding Meetings in that Town than the present. Small & decayed house of ours is deserving the attention of the yearly Meeting.

Adjourned to the close of the yearly Meeting

At an adjourned Meeting of Ministers Elders & Overseers held the 12th of the first month 1813

Present

1815 1st Present Thirty three Members

The following friends were appointed by the Early Meeting additional members of this Meeting Ezra Collins & Amos Tisby Moses Rowland Hathbun, Isaac Bagsell Jun & Daniel Johnson

The Early Meeting having referred the subject of the establishment of a boarding School to this Meeting, and having appointed a Committee of seven friends to unite with us in forming a judgment relative to proceeding therein at this time. And after mature deliberation it is the prevailing opinion of this Meeting & of the said Committee that the time has come when it will be best to proceed in making provision for erecting buildings for the necessary accomodation of the boarding School on the lot proposed to be given by our friend Moses Brown: And Obadiah & H. Brown. Thomas Rowland, Sylvester Hicks & William Hiley are appointed to prepare a plan for the buildings, with an estimate of the probable expense, and their opinion when it may be best to procure materials & to proceed in the erection of buildings & report to our next Meeting

It is ordained that our next Meeting be held at Portsmouth at the usual hour on the day of the next Quarterly Meeting & at other times as held last year

1815 At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Salem the 3rd day of the Eighth month 1815

Present Nineteen Members

An Account was received from Rhode Island Monthly Meeting of the expense of making provision for the accommodation of Friends at the late Yearly Meeting amounting to Three hundred Ninety Dollars fifty six cents. $390 of which having been advanced by the Treasurer agreeably to a minute of the Meeting in 5th month last. he is now requested to pay the balance of $90.56/100 to Daniel Williams

The Committee upon the subject of the Yearly Meeting School having received a plan for the building together with an estimate of the cost thereof as nearly as they could form, was generally approved; the substance of which is contained in the following Statement. Viz That in having reference to the amount of the funds, comprising both the former & latter Subscriptions with the interest, and not finding them wholly adequate to the probable expense of ~~and not finishing~~ erecting two buildings, and meeting the unavoidable expense of two establishments their attention has been principally turned to the consideration of a plan comprizing both Schools Viz. Male & female under one roof — that upon the best calculation they were able to make, the cost of erecting such a building the walls to be built of stone and to furnish it with the requisite furniture together

with

the Outbuildings. Friends ? the necessary improve-
ment of the lot. cannot be estimated (without it
in a plain economical manner) at less than Two
thousand Dollars, in which estimate no calcu-
lation is made for a boarding house from an
expectation that a House may be found in the vici-
which will answer in that purpose, in, which case
which it will be unnecessary to build one — the
Committee express a hope which they trust is well
grounded that the liberality of friends will
not only be continued but extended, as the
amount of the present pledges are yet to be limited
to set up and support a Yearly Meeting School
agreeable to the plan of economy contemplated in
their Report, in such manner that Friends in
moderate circumstances may as freely avail them-
selves of its benefits as the real good of Society requires

This Meeting from the uncertainty when
may be the best time for procuring materials and
proceeding with the building leave it to the judgment
of the same Committee to progress therein as circum-
stances in their view may warrant, and the further
consideration of the subject is referred to our next meeting

(C) At our Meeting for Sufferings held at
New Bedford the Sixth of the 12 Mo. 1815

1815

Present Fourteen Members —

Part of the Committee to superintend the building of the Yearly Meeting School House, being present, inform that in consequence of a calamitous Storm that spread ruin & devastation in many parts of New England and particularly in the vicinity of the Lot assigned for the erection of the buildings since our last Meeting, they had not deemed it prudent to proceed in collecting Materials the price of which had been greatly enhanced and laborers difficult to be procured arising from the damage the late destruction had occasioned — It is therefore left to their judgment to proceed agreeably to the minute of last Meeting —

The London Printed Epistle of last 9th month: was received & read to our satisfaction Five Hundred copies of which are directed to be printed for the use of the several Meetings belonging to the Yearly Meeting — The Clerk is appointed to have the care and distribution thereof, and report to our next Meeting —

At a Quarterly Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence the 21 of First Month 1816

Present Twenty Six Members —

The Clerk informed that Six hundred copies of the London Epistle ordered at our last Meeting are printed part of which are forwarded by some of the Quarterly

Quarterly Meetings for distribution. the expense of printing being fifteen dollars is with the like sum for printing an equal number last year defrayed by the sale of books belonging to the yearly Meeting in the hands of Abraham Sharpless Jun. as per account exhibited to this Meeting —

The Committee upon the Subject of the yearly Meeting School report their attention thereto. And that they have progressed in procuring materials so far as existing circumstances render it eligible — That William Dupuy is added to the Committee who are directed to proceed upon the plan of erecting One building of a commodious size for the reception of Two hundred Scholars —

And the Committee appointed to enquire whether it will be proper to lay the foundation of the building and that a satisfactory agreement may be entered upon what part of the Lot to locate it. the appointment William Rotch Jun Samuel Rodman. Jun William Coleman Caleb Cowperthwait David Dupuy. Moses Brown. Joseph Harris. Obadiah Brown & Thomas Arnold to confer with the Committee to view the Lot. consult together and agree upon a Spot to erect the buildings —

The Committee appointed for superintending the erection of the Stone Meeting House at Portsmouth

Present Seventeen Members.

The Friends appointed at our last Meeting to meet with the Committee who were appointed [illegible] appointed to have the care of procuring materials for the building of the Country School House in order that a satisfactory agreement might be entered into on the part of the Society suitable to place the buildings. Report that they attended Meeting and after viewing the Lot and taking the matter under consideration they unitedly agreed upon a place to build the buildings —

The Committee appointed to have the care of erecting the buildings informs this Meeting that Workmen are engaged in digging a Cellar for the foundation thereof

The Committee upon further consideration of the subject generally are of opinion that a variation from their report made to the Eighth Month Meeting respecting which respects the Walls to Stone — to be laid being composed of Stone & faced with Brick, will be Beneficial as well as to the form which said report also directs be such form made the Ends of the building circular. they now recommend as a more suitable form. That the Wings extend on each side in a line with the Center building to be about 32 by 40 feet the Centre about 40 feet high exclusive of the Cupolow about 50

34

1816 180

54 Inst. which has the approbation of this Meeting
And it is therefore left to their discretion to unite
these with such other alterations as may appear
proper by experience, in the progress the building
may dictate — The Yearly Meeting of
Rhode Island is requested to make provision for
the accomodation of the ensuing Yearly Meeting
with liberty to draw on the Yearly Meeting's treasurer
for Four Hundred Dollars on account of the expense
thereof, to be accounted for at a future Meeting. And
the Clerk is directed to give a copy of this Minute
thereto —

At our Meeting for Sufferings held at
Portsmouth the 8th Month 1816

Present Thirty one Members

A Testimony of the life, convincement, and religious
services of our valuable deceased friend Caleb
Jenkins is presented to this Meeting from
Berwick, North Yorkshire, by a minute from the
Quarterly Meeting held the 25th of the 4th Month
last, which being carefully attended to, approved
and ordered to be read at the Yearly Meeting of 1817 —
Our deceased friends shoulders to be removed upon by the
friends to their interment to the Yearly Meeting

Testimony concerning Caleb Jenkins

Adjourned to the close of this [illegible] Meeting at Newport

6th mo. 19 Met by Adjournment at the close of the Yearly Meeting. Present Twenty five Members.

Abraham Shearman Jun. was appointed by the late Yearly Meeting a Member of this Meeting

Subscriptions toward the Yearly Meetings School fund were received from the following Mo. Meetings, viz. Hardwidge £3.15.0. positive £5 at opening the School & £5.0.0 to be paid at ten Annual payments of three dollars each beginning at the commencement of the School making in all $78.50

South Kingston, (positive) ..... 5.

Providence do 12.50

It is concluded that our Meetings for the ensuing Year be held as follows. viz.

At Lynn in the 5th Month at Newbedford in the 12th Providence in the 2d East Greenwich in the 5th Month on the day preceding the Quarterly Meeting held at those places. And at Portsmouth on the day of the second yearly Meeting there at the usual hour in the Afternoon.

Application being made by our friend Daniel Anthony for a copy of a manuscript of our deceased friend Job Scott, the original of which was once before this Meeting, with a view to [illegible] taken for publication which Original is minuted

apparently lost. — Upon considering the subject it
concluded that a Sess of Power to the next Quarterly
Meetings exist in keeping in which it is desirable
deliver the said copy to the Clerk, who is
requested to procure another copy at the expense of
this Meeting. And when the copy now directed to be
delivered, to this Meeting that it may be at the com
control of the Meeting for publication if it shall
hereafter be thought advisable —

At our Meeting for Sufferings held at
Lynn the 14th of the 8th Month 1816

Present Seventeen Members —

One of the Committee to superintend the building
for the Yearly Meeting School informs that consider
the progress is made therein — and this Meeting
taking into consideration that the money payable
by the terms of subscription is now wanted for the purp
of discharging the expenses, request the treasurer of the
said fund to apply to subscribers of this description
for payment, as well as to those who are indebted by
their obligations for sums of this fund formerly subscr
and now loaned, and that he pay what he may collect
to the Committee of superintendance taking their receip
therefor — A letter was received from Rhode Isla
Monthly Meeting of the expense of procession made to th
request of this Meeting for the accomodation of the

Yearly Meeting amounting to $41.82, leaving a
balance in addition to the Sum advanced by this Meet
ing in the 5th month last of $1.82, which the Treasurer
of the Yearly Meeting is desired to pay to David
Buffum the bearer of the Account. —

Sam'l Lindsay one of the Committee appointed
at the Yearly Meeting to assist in making provision
for the accomodation of the friend whose concern to
make a religious visit to friends in Europe was approved
by that Meeting; informs that he has paid Forty five
guineas for her passage in a Ship from New York
to Liverpool, which the Yearly Meetings treasurer is
desired to repay. —

The United Epistle
from the last Yearly Meeting of friends held in
London was read to our satisfaction. Of which it
is concluded to print one hundred copies for distribution
which the Clerk is appointed to the care of, and of
sending them to the respective Quarterly Meetings.

From a representation at one of our late
Meetings, that some friends of Berwick & We Meeting
were impressed with an opinion that some of the
writings of our deceased friend Mehitable Jenkins, were
deserving of their attention, the subject was left for their
further deliberation. Which we are now informed by a
member of that Meeting has resulted in a conclusion to
lay them before this Meeting. We therefore appoint

1816 184

Micajah Collins, Saml Rogers & David Johnson
William Dean, William Almy & Thomas Hu
-land to examine & consider of the same & report
their judgment thereon to a future Meeting.

In conformity with what appeared
to be the mind and one of the objects of concern of the
late yearly Meeting We appoint Obadiah
Brown, William Richson. David Buffum
William Almy. Saml Rogers, Matthew Turner
Lloyd Southwick, Moses Sleeper & Samuel
F. Hussey to be a Committee for the ensuing
year to procure, and dispose, and otherwise en-
-courage the circulation of such books as in their judg-
-ment may conduce to the spreading of the Knowledge
of our religious & peaceable principles & testimonies
And report the progress and expense thereof from
time to time as they may judge expedient —

At our Meeting for Sufferings held at
New Bedford the 4th. of the 12th. Month 1816

Present Thirteen Members —

The Friends appointed at our last Meeting to have
the care of printing and forwarding the London Epis-
-tle to the several Quarterly Meetings. Report that they
are all forwarded except to the Quarterly Meeting
of Falmouth & Nassaborough, to which they will be

16 when opportunities offer thereafter — And that the
expense of printing is Twelve Dollars & fifty Cents.

The Account was presented from Abishai
Bunker, one of the Committee appointed at the year
by Meeting to assist in making provision for the
accomodation of the friend whose concern to make a
religious visit to friends in Europe was approved by
that Meeting. Amounting to Twenty One Dollars &
Eighty seven & an half cents, expense attending a pas-
sage from Nantucket to Newyork in the 7th month
last to qualify her to obtain a passage to Liverpool
which the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting is desired
to pay to Sam[l] Redman with the foregoing Amount
of $12.50 for printing the Yearly Meeting epistle.

17 At Our Meeting for Sufferings held at
Providence the 5th of the 2d Month 1817.

Present Twenty five Members

A testimony from West port Monthly Meeting
approved by Sandwich Quarterly Meeting on
behalf of our deceas'd friend Jeremiah Austen, was
read, and after a few corrections directed to be
laid before our next Yearly Meeting —

At Our Meeting for Sufferings held at
East Greenwich the 30th of the 11th Month 1817

Present. Fourteen Members. The

1817 (186) The attention of Friends of Rhode Island
Monthly Meeting is requested to the accom-
dation of the ensuing Yearly Meeting — And
that Monthly Meeting is authorized to draw o
the Yearly Meeting's treasurer for Four hundre
Dollars on Account of the expense thereof. and
desired to render an Account thereof at a future
Meeting. — The following report wa
presented — Viz:

The Committee in the case of the Year
Meeting School house report that they have
proceeded so far in their appointment as to finish
the outside of said house except glazing; and
something has been done towards the inside.

That the expense so far as they have gone is abo
Eighteen Thousand Dollars. And that to complete
the building and to furnish it with furniture;
will probably cost about Seven Thousand Dolla
more. making an addition to the cost contempla
in the report of the Committee in the 8th mo. 1815
of Five Thousand Dollars. This has arisen from
putting on an additional Story on the center pan
of the building, to accomodate the School with a
Meeting room. and in dividing the house in a
better manner than was then contemplated —.

The Committee now thought it most advisable
to

to suspend going on to complete the building, and the Medical for Sufferings were apprised of the state of the business, and because the high price of Eastern Pine stuff had made it more eligible to wait in expectation that it would be lower the present season, and also by taking a little more time the finishing of the building can be done more economically, which from the state of the funds the Meeting will perceive is essentially necessary — It will require some further provision to be made to increase the funds in order to complete what has been begun, and to set the School into operation — The Committee may inform that that there are two individuals who offer to subscribe the one half of Seven Thousand Dollars, provided the Society will open a Subscription and raise within Six Months the other half. — The Committee are induced to communicate this information to encourage the prosecution of the object which friends have so long had in view, and not to let it be either long protracted, or lost for want of a little addition to the funds. — The Committee have received about Eleven thousand four hundred Dollars from the treasurer of the School including the Subscriptions of the Committee — The residue

far as has been extended. they have advanced —

The nominal Amount of the funds, as the Meeting has been informed by the Treasurer. School is about Twenty Thousand Dollars, but it is not probable that as much, or not exceeding Eighteen Thousand can be collected in time to answer the purpose of building & furnishing the house; and by raising the Sum above proposed to complete the building &c. it will leave the residue of the funds, when they are collected, to come in aid of the schooling of those children, whose parents are not able to pay for them, — William Almy.

4th M. 30. 1817 Sylvester Wickes.
Tho.s Howland.
To the Meeting for Sufferings. Obadiah Brown

Which being read & duly considered. It is concluded in order to pursue the object in the most summary, economical, & effective manner, that the Committee be authorized to hire such Sums of money as they may find necessary in the prosecution & completion of the buildings & procuring of furniture, not exceeding Seven thousand Dollars, reimbursable by subscriptions that may hereafter be obtained or by any donation of whatever description that may be made to the School fund. that not specific & will not counteract the intention of the donor by such application —

1817 1817

At Our Meeting for Sufferings held at Portsmouth the 14th of the 6th Month 1817.

Present. Thirty one Members

A Testimony of the life conversation and past of the religious services of our deceased friend Ellison Engleton was presented from Smithfield Monthly & Quarterly Meetings, dated in the fourth & fifth Months last. Which being carefully examined, is with some corrections made therein, approved, And directed to be laid before the ensuing Yearly Meeting.

The Committee appointed in the Eighth Month last to procure and distribute such books as in their judgement might conduce to the preservation of our religious and peaceable principles, Report, their attention to the object of their appointment. And that the expense of books purchased amounts to Thirty four Dollars & Eighty Cents. Which the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting is directed to pay to William Rotch Jun. Those books with other that either belonged to the Society or friends who gave them, have been distributed

Adjourned to the close of the Yearly Meeting at Newport —

Met at Newport by adjournment present Thirty two Members — Edward Cobb is an additional Member of this Meeting by appoint-

appointment of the Yearly Meeting —

It is concluded that our Meetings for the ensuing year be held as they were last Viz. at Lynn in the 8th Month. NewBedford in the 12th Providence in the 2d. East Greenwich in the 5th on the days preceding the Quarterly Meetings held at those places. And at Portsmouth on the day of the Select Yearly Meeting all at the third hour in the afternoon —

At our Meeting for Sufferings held at Lynn the 20th of the 8th Month 1817

Present Twenty one Members —

Our friend Edward Cobb presented a Manuscript being in vindication of the principles of our Society in reply to a misrepresentation thereof, contained in a Pamphlet "entitled two Sermons on Christian fellowship, preached at Gorham in the district of Maine by Asa Rand" Which was read & its contents being duly considerd. It is concluded that a wise man arise from its publication, whereupon we appoint, Abraham Shearman Jun. William Dean & Thomas Arnold to assist the Author in preparing of it for the press — The friends appointed in the 8th Month last year to procure & encourage the circulation of books, conducing to the spreading of the Knowledge of our Religious & peaceable principles, are continued a Committee for the same purpose the ensuing year

817 A Minute from Rhode Island Monthly Meeting with an account of the expense attending the provision made at the request of this Meeting in the 5th month for the accomodation of the late Yearly Meeting were received, by which it appears that $420 8/100 has been expended leaving a balance Twenty dollars & Eight Cents due thereto, which the Treasurer is desired to pay to Benj Freeborn, who was appointed by the Monthly Meeting to lay the same before this Meeting —

At our Meeting for Sufferings held at New Bedford the 3d of the 12th Month 1817.

Present thirteen Members.

The London printed Epistle of this year, was read, to our comfort & Satisfaction. Of which it is concluded to have Five hundred copies printed for distribution, which Abraham Shearman Jun. is desired to have the care of, and of sending them to the respective Quarterly Meetings, and reporting when accomplished —

818 At our Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence the 4th of Second Month 1818

Present Eighteen Members —

Information is received from Abraham Shearman Jun. that he had procured printed 500 Copies of the London Epistle, which he had sent to the

Quarterly Meeting's. That the expense of Printing was $12 50/100 which the treasurer of the Yearly Meeting is desired to pay

At our Meeting for Sufferings held at Eas Greenwich the 6th of the 5th month 1818

Present Nineteen Members

A Case being represented to this Meeting by one of its Members wherein it is apprehended that a violation of our religious rights has taken plac in an instance of the sale of property for the payme of a Priest tax, under the colour of a law of the Sta Settlement — Which appearing to require the ... in order to possess a proper knowledge of the case, and the means requisite for redu We appoint William Rotch Jun. Thomas Arnold Daniel Johnson Sam. Rodman & Micajah Collins to investigate it. And afford such assistance to the individual Sufferer as the exigence may require. and report at our next Meeting —

This Meeting taking into consideration the provision that is necessary to be mad for the Accomodation of the ensuing Yearly Meeting requests the attention of Friends of Rhode-Island Monthly Meeting hereto. And that Meeting is authorized to draw on the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting for Four hundred Dollars on account hereof, And to report the amount thereof when accomplished —

At our Meeting for Sufferings held at Portsmouth the 13th of the Sixth Mo. 1818

Present Thirty four Membrs

The Committee appointed at our last Meeting upon the case supposed to be an infraction upon our religious rights, have manifested an attention thereto, but for want of knowledge of rules therein to the individual, of which there seems to be a prospect it is continued under their care to report at a future Meeting — The Committee who have the care of building & furnishing the Yearly Meeting School house, inform the work necessary for the house is nearly completed, and with the advice of this Meeting they purpose proceeding to furnish it for the full accomodation of the Scholars that may from time to time present — They also give an opinion that the house will be ready for occupants previous to the ensuing Winter, if at the time suitable & Satisfactory instructors & Superintendants should be procured —

The Committee to procure, and encourage the circulation of books, conducing to the spreading of the knowledge of our religious & peaceable principles, report that they have purchased to the Amo. of Thirty Dollars for that purpose of the pamphlets printed from the manuscript presented to the Meeting in the 8th Mo. last, by our friend Edward Cobb Which are approved — From the character of their usefulness, it is concluded to add Twenty dollars more for

1818 for the purchase of said pamphlets. Which the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting is desired to pay to William Rotch Jun. a Member of that Committee

Moses Brown Edward Cobb. Rowland Greene & Rowland Greene Rathbun are added to said Committee of distribution

Adjourned to the close of the Yearly Meeting at Newport

At our Meeting for Sufferings held at Newport the 1st of the Sixth Month 1818

Present Twenty eight Members

It is concluded that our Meetings for the Year ensuing be held at Portsmouth in the 8th Mo. NewBedford in the 12th. Providence in the 2d. last Greenwich in the 5th. on the days preceding the Quarterly Meetings held at those places. And at Portsmouth on the day of the Select Yearly Meeting. all at the third hour in the afternoon.

Sam Rodman is Appointed Clerk for the year

At Our Meeting for Sufferings held at Portsmouth the 5th of the 8th Month 1818. present twenty four Members

On Account of the Reasons attending the accommodation of the Yearly Meeting with a minute from Rhode Island Monthly Meeting stating it to have been $451.81 leaving a balance of $51.81. due to said Meeting which the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting is desired to pay to Benjamin Fowler on Account of the

Monthly Meeting —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence the 8th of the 10th Month 1818

Present Men Members —

A letter from the Meeting, or Religious Society at Baltimore was read, inclosing a copy of a Memorial from that Meeting to the Senate & House of Representatives of the United States; both of which were read. And the latter inviting to a cooperation in the concern manifested in the Memorial to them before the wise of Congress the situation of the Indian Natives of this Country, with a hope that the rulers of our Nation may be hereby induced to give further & increased attention to their improvement by their joining and that the trade licensed with them may be restricted to persons of exemplary conduct who reside with them — which being taken into consideration and feeling a near unity with our friends of Baltimore in the object of their Memorial and a sympathy with the Natives. We appoint William Rotch Jun & Obed Hussey Jun. & Thomas Arnold to prepare a Memorial addressed to the President Senate & House of Representatives of the United States and present it at the adjournment of this meeting —

Adjourned to half past eight to morrow morning

G. H. M. clerk of adjournment

The Committee appointed yesterday presented in

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1818

following — To the President.
And to the Senate and House of Representatives
of the United States in Congress Assembled.

The Memorial of the Representatives of the Yearly
Meeting of Friends of New England —

Respectfully Sheweth

That your Memorialists have
been strongly impressed with a sense of the present
condition of the Indian Natives, within and near
the United States, which has produced in us a deep
sympathy with them in their past and present sufferings. — When we seriously reflect upon the Man-
ner in which they have been reduced, of not com-
pulsion from time to time to sacrifice their local
attachments, to quit their habitations and their Coun-
to Surrender them all up to, and relie before a powerful
more powerful, more enlightened, and claiming to hav
a higher Sense of justice and equity, of Mercy and
compassion; We think there can be no thoughtful and
benevolent mind but must feel some regret and com-
punction at the measure that has been too generally
meted to them, by us and our Forefathers. —

We are not insensible of the efforts which
have been made, and are still making by our govern-
ment, and by many of our fellow citizens in a more
private capacity, to guard them from imposition by

means of Spirituous liquors, or otherwise and to introduce among them, the useful arts of civilized life which we are well assured have in various instances produced a visibly beneficial effect, And we humbly and earnestly entreat that instead of any intermission in these efforts your attention may be renewedly directed to the subject, and such further measures be adopted in a spirit of humane and liberal policy, as comports with the character of a just and magnanimous nation. And we desire respectfully to request to your serious consideration, whether the frequent removal by purchase, or otherwise, of these native inhabitants of the country they inhabit, from their homes their improvements in the cultivation of the soil, and the attendant comforts which they are beginning to appreciate, to a wilderness wholly uncultivated, must not tend to force them back to savage life and thus destroy that degree of improvement to which they have already attained by individual exertions, and the fostering aid of a government which would thus destroy the work of its own hands.

We have seen in the page of history and within our own times in other quarters of the world, great and powerful nations abuse the influence which they have possessed over their weaker neighbors pursuing

pursuing in our own State a course calculated without due regard to the rights or the happiness of others; we may all recollect the feelings excited by the transactions to which we allude: And it is our fervent desire and prayer to Almighty God, the Father and preserver of the whole human family, that he would enlighten the minds of our Rulers clearly to see, and inspire their hearts with a disposition to pursue that perfect rule of justice and charity which would preserve the character of our own Country pure and unsullied by any imputation of unjust or ambitious motives.—

In these feelings towards our brethren, the natives of our country; in the earnest desire for their protection, for their improvement, and the amelioration of their condition what we have taken the liberty to express, we believe a large proportion of our fellow citizens in this Section of our Country concur, And we respectfully submit them to your consideration.

Signed by order, and on behalf of a meeting of said Representatives held at Providence the 9th of the 10th Month 1818.

Saml Rodman Clerk

Which being approved the Clerk is directed to make two copies. One thereof in behalf of the representatives of Friends of New England are forward them as directed to the respective boards of your annual—

1818 At our Meeting for Sufferings held at
New Bedford the 2d of the 12th Month 1818

Present thirteen Members

We are informed by the Clerk that
the Memorial from this Meeting to Congress
has been placed in channels to be presented
agreeably to his directions —

Information being received that a
friend is imprisoned in Dedham Jail for Non-com-
pliance with a training warrant; that the complaint
upon which he is imprisoned originated at a time
that he could not be excused by the certificate
that is required by the law of Massachusetts for friends
to produce upon Military requisitions he being
received a Member after the date that is obligatory
upon an Officer of a company to accept it

Whereupon we appoint, Thomas Arnold, Thos
Farnum & Walter Allen, to investigate the case,
act & advise thereon as they may think necessary
and report at our next Meeting —

The Clerk, being of the Committee appointed
by the Yearly Meeting in 1810 to provide for the accom-
modation of the friend, whose concern to make a
religious visit to friends in Europe, was approved
by that Meeting, informs that he has received one hun-
dred eighty two Dollars & seventy Cents, balance of

1818 advances for that purpose made by Cooper Dawson & Compt. of Surpose as p the Account which is presented. Which Sum the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting is desired to repay

The London printed Epistle of this Year was received and read.

1819 At our Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence the 3d of the 2d Month 1819

Present Twenty one Members

Adjourned to the close of the Meeting of the Yearly Meetings Boarding School Committee this afternoon

Met according to adjournment

School Accounts were received from Tiny & Brown of the expense attending the building and furnishing of the Yearly Meeting Boarding School house to this period, likewise Moses Browns Account as treasurer of the School fund, Whereupon we appoint Sylvester Wicks, William Rotch Jun & Samuel Rodman to examine, and make report thereon at our next Meeting

The Committee appointed at our last Meeting upon the case of the friend imprisoned in Cadiz Jail for his Noncompliance with a Military requisition Report that they attended to their Appointment. And upon making a visit to the place found that he had been released

1819 At our Meeting for Sufferings held at East Greenwich the 5th of the fifth Month 1819

Present Twenty two Members —

The Committee appointed to examine the Accounts of Wm & Brown for building & furnishing the Yearly Meeting School house and Moses Browns Accounts as Treasurer of the School fund made the following report —

By direction of the Meeting for Sufferings, We have carefully examined the Accounts of Moses Brown treasurer of the School Fund, And find he has paid to Wm & Brown for the use of the Committee for building & furnishing the Yearly Meeting boarding School house, all the money that has been received by him either from the original School fund or from the recent Subscriptions made in the years 1816 and 1817. amounting to Twenty four thousand Six hundred Ninety five Dollars & Thirteen Cents

It also appears by his Accounts there are some Securities belonging to the Old fund, which will probably be collected, and may produce about One thousand Dollars —

We further find that from about Ninety

Subscribers in 1817 there remains unpaid One thousand fifty eight Dollars & fifty Cents

2 Mo 23 1819 Sam. Rodman
Will. Rotch Jun.

Pursuant to our appointment, we have examined the Accounts of Almy & Brown for the building of the Yearly Meeting Boarding School house & furnishing the same, And find they have received from the treasurer Twenty four thousand Six hundred Ninety four Dollars and thirteen cents, and that there remains a balance due to them of Two thousand Nine hundred Eighty seven Dollars Namely Two Cents

2m 23d 1819 Sam.l Rodman
Will.m Rotch, Jun

Which reports are Accepted

The Treasurer of the School, and is requested to write to some friend of the Meeting to which the 90 Subscribers mentioned in the foregoing report belong, who have not paid their subscriptions, informing them that the amount has been advanced by individuals, and that such as are able to pay, are desired to do it previous to

Yearly Meeting at which time a definite report is expected to be made —

Friends of Rhode Island Monthly Meeting are requested to make the necessary accomodation for the ensuing Yearly Meeting And that Meeting is at liberty to draw on the Yearly Meetings treasurer for four hundred Dollars on Account of the expense thereof. Report to be made to this Meeting when ascertained

At our Meeting for Sufferings held at Portsmouth the 12th of the Sixth Month 1819

Present Thirty two Members

The treasurer of the School fund informed this Meeting that in consequence of the requisition of our last Meeting he had written to some friends of the Meetings to which the unpaid subscriptions belonged and that Two hundred forty eight dollars had been received by him —

Adjourned to the 1st hour to morrow morning at the Meeting house in Newport —

On 13th Met according to adjournment —

Present Twenty one Member

Adjourned to the 1st hour to morrow morning

On 14th Met by adjournment

Present Twenty five Members.

The time of this Sitting was occupied in the concerns of Society which are not sufficiently matured to form a precise minute

Adjourned to the 7th hour on Fourth day Morning. —

6th Month 16th Met by adjournment. —

Present Thirty two Members

The Treasurer of the School fund informed this Meeting. that in consequence of the requisition of our last Meeting. he had written to some friends of the Meetings to which those who had not paid their Subscription to the fund belonged, and that part had been received by him, amounting to Two hundred & forty eight Dollars

Duplicate Minutes

Sixth Month 16th 1819 Met by adjournment. present Thirty two Members

Several of the preceding sittings of this Meeting, during the Yearly Meeting. have been occupied in reading, and at this time in deliberating upon some of the writings of our deceased friends Joe Scott, with a view to the publication, which being weighty consider-

Writings J. Scott

1819 subject is referred to a future meeting

Adjourned to the 7th hour to morrow morning

Met according to Adjournment.

Present Thirty Members —

The London printed Epistle of last year not having been forwarded to the several Quarterly Meetings Abraham Shearman Jun is desired to have 500 copies thereof reprinted for this purpose and report thereof with the expense when accomplished. —

It is concluded that our Meetings for the Year ensuing be held at Lynn on the Eighth month, New Bedford in the Twelfth. Providence in the Second. East Greenwich in the Fifth. on the days preceding the Quarterly Meetings held at those places: And at Portsmouth on the day of the Select Yearly Meeting, all at the third hour in the afternoon. —

At Our Meeting for Sufferings held at Lynn the 18th of the 8th Month 1819

Present Fourteen Members —

The following Minute with an Account agreeing therewith was received, viz! To Committee to make provision for Friends at the Yearly Meet.

presented their Account, Audited by this Meetings
Auditors Amounting to $504.74/100 Each of which
is appointed to lay said Account before the Meet-
ing for Sufferings the balance being $104.74/100 due
this Meeting. Extracted from the minutes of Rhode
Island Monthly Meeting held the 29th of 1st mo 1819.

David Williams. Clerk

And the Yearly Meetings Treasurer is desired
to pay the balance therein stated to Benjamin Free-
born on Account of said Meeting —

The Subject of the minutes of our deceased
friend Job Scot referred from our last Meeting
being again considered And several friends
manifesting their desire that their contents may
not be improperly withheld which being united
with. In order to resume the subject with the
advantage that a larger Meeting than the present
may admit, it is referred to the adjournment, pro-
posed to be at Somerset — The friends
appointed at our Meeting in the 8th Month 181-
for the purpose of distributing books comprising
the knowledge of our religious principles are
continued with the exception of our deceased

Paul

1819 Paul Rogers. And addition of Isaac Bassett
Micajah Collins Edward Cook & Moses Norris
until another appointment may be made. —

Adjourned to the fourth day of the week at
the third hour in the afternoon preceding the Quar-
terly Meeting of Rhode Island: to be held at
Somerset in the 11th month. —

11th M. 3d 1819 Met at Somerset by adjournment
Present Nineteen Members.

The Subject of the meetings of ours &
Writings friend Joseph Scott's visit & account of his
S. sittings during the last 6 weeks Meeting was again
brought before the view of this Meeting, & no
way appearing to proceed thereon it is referred to
our Meeting in the 2 Month at Providence. —

This Meeting being affected with the
consideration that upon the subject of admitting
a New State into the Union of the United States
at the west of the Mississippa River which required
part of the late Session of Congress. It seemed
from the votes in the Senate & house of Representatives
that the question whether Slavery should be admitted
to form a part of its Constitution was supposed
almost on an equal balance — In this unfinished
state of the question before the Legislature of the Un-

diseases of posterity by any means or influence at our
disposal to check an evil so atrocious. We appoint
William Rotch Jun. William Almy, Thomas Ar-
nold Micajah Collins & Samuel Rodman, to
prepare a Memorial enclosive of our concern.
directed to the Senate & House of Representatives
and present it to our next Meeting. —

At our Meeting for Sufferings held at
New Bedford the 21st of the twelfth Month 181[illegible]

Present Fourteen Members

The Committee appointed at our last Meeting
to prepare a Memorial, presented one which being
with some alterations approved, the Clerk is
directed to have two copies transcribed, Sign
them in behalf of this Meeting & forward them
to the two houses of Congress. A Copy of which
is annexed Viz. —

To the Senate & House of Representatives
of the United States of America in Congress
Assembled —

The Address of the Representatives
of the Society of Friends of New England

In contemplating the many blessings
bestowed upon this Country, We are induced
anew for humble gratitude to that Almighty

flower whose love is extended over all the workmanship of his holy hand, and to whom alone we are indebted for every good we enjoy — And when we consider that his justice is commensurate with his Mercy, We are deeply impressed with the necessity there is, for that "Righteousness which exalteth a Nation" to predominate in all our Councils, as the only sure & well grounded hope for the continuance of those favors —

Under these impressions we cannot but feel much interested in a subject which was under consideration at the last Session of Congress, and which will doubtless again claim your attention, that of permitting Slavery in the State which may be formed to the West of the Mississippi. Such an extension of the evils of Slavery as would result from the admission of this principle, we should sincerely deplore, and our regret would be greatly enhanced by the evidence it would appear to afford of a change of views in those who have heretofore feelingly expressed their abhorrence of Slavery as actually existing in some of the oldest States under the sanction of laws enacted in a less enlightened age; And although we are encouraged to hope

1819 216

That the Wisdom of Congress will be equal, when we cannot but consider the unanimable views of those who are immediately interested in the present question, and who we believe are blinded to their true interest. Yet we feel ourselves constrained to appeal to your feelings on this very important occasion — We need not animadvert upon the effect of Slavery in contaminating both the moral & religious character of Man, which has been so often, and so ably portrayed by the wise and the good: but only advert to that duty we all owe to our fellow creatures so emphatically enjoined by the great Christian Rule "whatsoever ye would that men should do unto you, do ye even so to them". And would impressively recommend an individual attention to that sense of justice, equity and mercy, graciously afforded from an all bounteous God to every rational soul, and persuaded we are that by an obedience to these feelings, every thing will be done within the power of our Government to do away that guilt, which the evils of Slavery have already attached to this Country, and which we have reason to fear will sooner or later be productive of an awful and Malignant retribution upon a disposition to not use efforts to remove the cause

May he whose right it is to rule in the Kingdoms of Men so influence your hearts, that a sacred regard to immutable justice may prevail in all your deliberations is the fervent desire of Your sincere friends —

Signed by order and on behalf of a meeting of said Representatives held at New Bedford Massachusetts the first of the Twelfth Month 1819 By.

Samuel Rodman Clerk

— Abraham Sherman jun informs that agreeably to appointment on the 6th Month last, he did procure 300 copies of the London Epistle printed & forwarded to the Quarterly Meetings as directed. He also presented an account of the expense, with other printing on account of the Yearly Meeting the whole amount whereof is Twenty two Dollars which the Treasurer is requested to pay —

Call Our Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence the Second day of the Second Month 1820 Present Twenty Members

In Clerk being absent Obadiah Brown is appointed Clerk for the day —

The London printed Epistle of last year was read

this time. William Rotch jun & Abraham Shearm. Jun. are appointed to have the care of printing 500 copies and forwarding them to the several Quarterly Meetings in the usual proportions, and report thereof to this Meeting

The Subject of the writings of our dec'd friend Job Scott coming under consideration by reference from the Meeting in the 11th Month last It is concluded again to refer the same to the Meeting next preceding the Yearly Meeting

Writings J. S.

At our Meeting for Sufferings held at East Greenwich the third day of the Fifth Month 1820. Present Twenty Members

The friends appointed to have the care of printing & forwarding the last London Epistle report the accomplishment thereof so far as opportunity has offered of forwarding the copies, their care to fulfil the appointment is desired — And the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting is requested to pay Abraham Shearman jun. Twelve Dollars the expense of printing — The Accomodation of the ensuing Yearly Meeting being considered the attention of friends of Rhode Island Common

is requested to and liberty is hereby given to that Meeting to draw on the Yearly Meetings Treasurer for Four hundred Dollars toward the expense thereof, Report to be made to this Meeting when Accomplished —

The Committee to procure and encourage the circulation of books. Report that they have purchased & distributed thereof to the amount of Thirty three dollars & Eight Cents which the Treasurer is desired to pay to Abraham Shearman Junr. —

At our Meeting for Sufferings held at Portsmouth the Tenth day of the Sixth Month 1820. Present Thirty one Members

The Subject of the writings of our deceased friend Job Scott referred from the 2d Month last Entitled. Some Brief remarks upon the Nature of Salvation by Christ, Shewing it is to be a birth of divine life in Man &c. were again considered and the Sentiments of Several friends expressed thereupon — the general tenor of the piece has had the manifestation of Unity and a concern has accompanied the discussion that the suspension now contemplated may not preclude it from future care, with

a

belief that it may hereafter be resumed with usefulness — Yet for want of a satisfactory evidence that the present is a suitable time to authorize a further procedure, the Subject is referred, until its revival may be approved

Adjourned to the close of the Yearly Meeting at Newport —

At our Meeting for Sufferings held at Rhode Island the 15th. of the 6th Month 1820.

An appointment of Members to constitute this Meeting was made at the late Yearly Meeting, consisting of 41 friends, viz:

David Buffum	Jo. Thurman Jun	Benjamin Fry
Moses Brown	Wm. Almond	Stephen Jones
William Almy	Sam. Adams	Thomas Arnold
Sylvester Wilds	Nath. Brayton	Rowland Robinson
John Wilbor	Seth. Mitchell	Nicholas Congdon
Obadiah Brown	Stephen Southwick	Mark Coffin
Rowland Greene	Wm. Buffum	Richard Mitchell
Thomas Anthony	Matthew Allen	Benj. Freeborn
Thomas Rowland	Edward Cobb	Thomas Fry
Micajah Collins	John Brown	Obadiah Davis
William Dean	Sam. Hussey	Obed Starbuck
Ezra Collins	Moses Dow	Silas Newhall
Isaac Bell Jun	Moses Slocum	Daniel Johnson.
William Reed Jun	Joshua Reed	

Present at this time Twenty Seven Names.

Samuel Rotch appointed Clerk for the

year ensuing — This Meeting having
therefore had a Committee for the purpose of procuring
and disposing such articles as may be necessary for the
Comfort of our Delegates and Friends while
there. the continuance of which being considered
useful. Moses Brown Moses Dow. Edward Cowe
Abijah Collins. Rowland Evans. Wallace Brown
& Sharman Junr. Wm Rotch Junr. John Brown
& Sam. T. Hussey. are appointed a Committee
therefor — It is concluded that
our Meetings for the Year ensuing be held at Lynn
in the Eighth Month. at Portsmouth in the Twelfth.
Providence in the Second. East-Greenwich in the
Fifth. on the days preceding the Quarterly Meetings
held at those places. And at Portsmouth in the day
of the Select Yearly Meeting held at the Preparative
in the Afternoon —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held
at Lynn the 16th day of the Eighth Month 1820.
Present Fourteen Members.
An extract of a Minute from Rhode Island
Monthly Meeting approving of an Account which was
this present of the Expenses attending the accommodation of
the last Yearly Meeting were received, whereby it appears
that the amount expended was $360.43. leaving a balance
due to that Meeting of Sixty two Dollars sixty three Cents
which the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting is desired to
pay to Benjamin Hallam on Account of said Meeting.
An Epistle Printed Epistle of the present year
was received & read in this Meeting. And 500 copies of it
are

are directed to be printed and distributed to the several Quarterly Meetings of which our friend Cornelius Howland is appointed to have the care, & to report to this Meeting, with the expense when accomplished —

A Women's Meeting for Sufferings held at Newmarket the Sixth day of Twelfth Month 1820.

Present Twelve Members —

The Committee appointed at our last Meeting to have the care of reprinting and distributing the London Epistle, reports that the appointment has been attended to. the expense of printing being Twelve dollars, the Treasurer of this Yearly Meeting is desired to pay to Abraham Shearman Junr. —

Adjourned to half past six this evening

Met according to adjournment. present 13 Members

A communication has been made to this Meeting by one of its members, relative to the situation of the tribe of Penobscot Indians heretofore under the care of the Government of Massachusetts, but which by the late separation of that State now devolves upon that of Maine — and the Governor of that State having manifested a desire for their amelioration & civilization and made personal application to a member of this Meeting with a view to the Society of Friends participating in this object: — It has thus been introduced to us, and had the deliberate consideration of this Meeting: And although we feel interested in the welfare of the Indian tribes & of Mankind, yet we do not consider ourselves warranted in assuming any responsibility or acting in our religious Society but consistent with

application has is made believe it right to refer
1820 it to the consideration of our next Quarterly Meeting.

Adjourned to the Sixth hour to morrow morning.

12m 7. Met by adjournment —

Present Thirteen Members —

Adjourned to half past Nine to morrow morning.

12m 8. Met by adjournment —

Present Thirteen Members —

The whole of the preceding Sitting has been mostly occupied in reading a Manuscript, Being an examination of a book entitled "A Harmony of the Holy Scriptures to which is added a "brief reply to the observations of Jesse Edward "lately by Asa Rand, Pastor of the Congregational "Church in Gorham:" The Manuscript refutes the misrepresentations contained in said book as they relate to our principles the further consideration of which is referred to our next Meeting —

1821 At our Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence the 31st of 1st Month 1821

Present Twenty one Members.

The subject referred from our last Meeting respecting a Manuscript, being an examination of a book written by Asa Rand coming again under consideration, the Meeting proceeded to read a part of the writings to which this manuscript is a reply —

1821 This Meeting receiving information from Pembrook Monthly Meeting that a young man by the name of Cyrus Ames a Member of our Society is confined in close jail at Plymouth for a fine or fines incurred, for refusing to train previous to his becoming a member — Cornelius Howland, William Rotch Junr & Abm Shearman Junr are requested to pay attention to the case and lend such aid for his release as may appear advisable —

Adjourned to the fifth hour to morrow afternoon. 2d mo 1st Met by adjournment

Present the same Members as yesterday

This sitting has been occupied in reading so much of the publication by Asa Rand as satisfied the Meeting respecting it: and the Manuscript having again claimed our attention. William Almy, Rowland Greene John Wilbor, Micajah Collins, Abm Shearman Sylvester Wicks & Thomas Howland are appointed to examine it in connexion with the writings of Asa Rand, and report their judgement at a future Meeting — Adjourned to the first third day of the third Month. to meet at this place. at the third hour afternoon —

1821 3d Month 6th. Met by adjournment

Present fifteen Members —

The following report was read & accepted —

The Committee appointed to examine a manuscript in connection with a book written by Asa Rand to which the manuscript is a reply. Report, that they have paid attention to the Subject, and after reading the manuscript & proposing some abridgement of it, committed the work to the further examination of a sub-committee, who in company with Stephen A. Chase whose attention has been particularly requested by the Author have made still more abridgement in the reply, and introduced divers quotations from the writings of some of our ancient friends.

The work as now prepared, we offer to the Meeting with a view to its being published —

Signd, Thomas Howland in behalf of the Committee. —

Providence
3d Mo. 6. 1821

Adjourned to the Ninth hour to morrow Morning —

3d Mo. 7 Met by adjournment. Present the same friends, as yesterday —

Adjourned to half past two this afternoon

1821 Met at the hour appointed

Present the same Members

Adjourn'd to half past eight to morrow morning.

3 Mo. 8th Met by adjournment –

Present the same friends as yesterday.

Adjourn'd to two O Clock this afternoon

Met at the hour appointed –

Present Twelve Members –

The Manuscript in reply to Isa Rands book having been presented agreeably to the report of the committee who were appointed to examine it has engaged the attention of this Meeting in its several Sittings since 6th instant, and after a careful observation of its contents with some alterations proposed by the present members, and being deliberately considered it is concluded to have it printed; if it should now meet the approbation of the Author

Adjourn'd to the 6th hour to morrow morning

3d Mo. 9th Met by adjournment. present ten Members

Adjourn'd to half past two this afternoon.

Met by adjournment present Eleven Members.

The Manuscript which has occupied the preceeding Sittings being prepared for publication. It is concluded to have 1000 copies printed: and Moses Brown. Willi

1821 Henry & Thomas Hoveland are appointed to have it accomplished when the consent of the Author is obtained —

At our Meeting for Sufferings held at East Greenwich the 2.d of the 5.th Month 1821

Present Sixteen Members

The Accomodation of the ensuing Yearly Meeting being brought under consideration. The attention of Friends of Rhode Island Monthly Meeting is again requested as heretofore to this object. And they are Authorized to draw on the Yearly Meetings Treasurer for Four Hundred Dollars on Account of the expense. the Amount thereof. they are desired to report to this Meeting when accomplished.

At our Meeting for Sufferings held at Portsmouth the 6.th of the 6.th Month 1821

Present Twenty Six Members

The Committee named in the 5.th Month upon the information from Pembroke Monthly Meeting of the imprisonment of a friend in Plymouth Jail. report their attention to the subject: that he was released about the middle of the third Month by the payment of the fines as was understood by the Major General of that division

of

1821 the Militia — The Committee appo
ced to have the Manuscript in reply to Asa
Ranes book printed, Inform this Meeting tha
they have not had opportunity agreeably to
expectation of consulting the author conform
able to the reservation in the minutes for its
publication —

At our Meeting for Sufferings
held at Newport the 13th. of the 6th Month 1821

Present Thirty one Members.

The Yearly Meeting appointed the same
Friends. that composed the Meeting last
Year to constitute a Meeting for Sufferings
for the Year ensuing —

It is concluded that our Meetings
be held at the places they were last year viz
At Lynn in the 8th Month. New Bedford
in the 12th. Providence in the 2d. East Greenwi
in the 5th. on the days preceding the Quarterly
Meetings. held at those places. And at
Portsmouth on the day of the select yearly
Meeting. All at the third hour in the afternoon.

At a Quarterly Meeting for Sufferings held at Lynn the 15th of the Eighth Month 1821

Present Twenty two Members.

The Clerk being absent Micajah Collins is appointed Clerk for this time.

Rhode Island Monthly Meeting exhibited an Account of the expence of provision made for the accomodation of friends at the late Yearly Meeting amounting to $409. 55/100. after crediting $400 previously paid, leaves a balance of $9 55/100 which the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting is desired to pay to Benjamin Freeborn on Account of that Meeting.

The London Printed Epistle of the present Year was received and read to our Satisfaction. And it being concluded to reprint 500 copies to be distributed to our several Quarterly Meetings Abraham Shearman Junr. is requested to have them printed & forwarded accordingly, and report to this Meeting with the expense when accomplished.

A Quarterly Meeting for Sufferings held at New Bedford the 5th of 12th Month 1821.

Present Nine Members.

The following Communication was received and read

To the Meeting for Sufferings

1821 I am directed by Smithfield Monthly Meeting to inform you that John Lewis for various months has been about three months, and still continues in Bedham Jail, on a judgement for a Military fine, incurred by Conscientiously refusing to do Military duty. The fine being incurred before he actually became united in Membership with us Could not avail himself of a Certificate which the law has provided for the exemption of members of our Society. He is a young man with a family, in low circumstances, of Petersburgh, in the County of Norfolk.

Smithfield 30th of 11th Mo 1821.

John Osborne Clerk

which being duly Considered, and no way of giving to afford immediate relief, We Request Thomas Evans, William Robertson & Caleb Lewis, to take the Case into their Care, & mature mind to act herein as they in their best judgment, and report to our next Meeting.

Adjourned to meet at 4 o'clock this evening.

Met by adjournment, present Thos. Morris

Adjourned to half past six o'clock

1822 12th Mo 6th Met by adjournment, present eleven
Members. And the preceding Sitting
have been occupied in reading a Manuscript,
being Remarks on Sam'l Rands vindication of
the late Sentences, & sufficient only to guide
which has claimed the attention of the meeting
& the sufficient expression of approbation of its
general Contents, we are induced to appoint a
Committee to examine it, with the Company of
its author, and make such corrections, as may
appear necessary or meet to be laid before our
next meeting. We therefore appoint, Obadiah
Jones, William Rotch Jr. and Jane Rodman for
that purpose.

At our Meeting for Sufferings, held at
Providence the 17th of 1st Month 1822

Present Twenty three Members.

The Committee appointed to have the care of
printing Sam'l Rotch's answer to Asa Rand,
make the following report.

The Committee in the care of printing Sam'l
Rotch's answer to Asa Rand Report, that
they have procured One thousand Copies thereof

1822 and have directed Jos of them to be sent to the Portland
to the Care of Hezekiah Burnam Esqr for Lynn
to the Care of Micajah Collins, Jos to Providence to
the Care of Thos S Brown and the Remainder to
the Care of the author at Portland, the Cost of which
is Three hundred & eighty Dollars Nine Cents, the
Money having been borrowed for paying the expenses
In behalf of the Committee
Received Dec 2nd 1822. Moses Brown.
which is accepted. The Report is accompanied
with an account of the expense amounting to
$ 380.09 which the Treasurer of the yearly
Meeting is desired to pay to Moses Brown, a
Member of said Committee. In order to
reimburse the Sum to the yearly Meetings
Treasury, the Clerk is desired to communicate
to the Quarterly, to be by them transmitted to the
Monthly Meetings, information of this publi
cation and recommending the purchase of them
at the price fixed by this Meeting, of Sixty cent
The Committee appointed at our last Meeting
to attend to a book presented with the Treasurer
the author, returned the book to this meeting
but the Author not being present at this time

1822 the Subject is agreed to be resumed whenever the
Meeting may think it proper.

The Committee appointed to take into their
care the case of the poor imprisoned at Sedan
report their attention thereto — That they
visited the friend at the Jail, saw some of the
Officers but had Cognizance of the act, and made
such Communications to them, as occasioned upon the
Subject — Since which the friend has been released
Adjourned to the 29th Inst. to meet on Second evening
7th day 2nd Month. Met & adjourned. Present
Twenty one Members. The meeting is
informed through the Medium of a letter to
one friend at Moses Brown that funds in Phi-
ladelphia, are about appointing a Book written
by Robert Barclay on Church Government,
whereby an opportunity is afforded of purchasing
funds of this Yearly Meeting, Committee about
17½ cents for those half bound, and 25 cents for those
that may be full bound — Whereupon it is Con-
cluded to subscribe for 100 half, & one full description
and Moses Brown is requested in his reply to the
above letter, to order for their Number —

At our Meeting of Sufferings

1812 held at East Greenwich 1st & 2nd 1812.

Present Nineteen Members.

A Clerk [illegible] Meeting Thereon
is appointed Clerk for this time.

A Com. Being informed this Meeting that the
Committee of the Yearly Meeting Respecting
a Convenient House for the ensuing Year Meeting
Held & Alternately Monthly Meetings Request to be
extended Care to this Object as herein, and
that Meeting is authorized to draw on the Quarterly
Meetings Treasurer for $400 on account of the
Expenses, and desired to Report to this Meeting
at the next Quarterly Meeting. The present situation

Meeting House Boston

of Friends Meeting House and Lot in Boston
having been under Consideration at this time &
the Subject is referred to our next Meeting.

A Quarterly Meeting for Sufferings
held at Portsmouth the 15th of the 6th mo 1812.

Present Twenty eight Members.

The subject of Friends Meeting house Lot in
Boston being before this Meeting by reference
from our last Meeting, and several papers relative
thereto being read, which with the information
received from Friends who have heretofore been

a Certificate has induced this Meeting to endeavor to get a conveyance from the present trustees as soon as a release from the heirs at Law of John Phillips, the surviving trustee a sociable with Ebenezer Pope. as a desirable attainment toward obtaining the just right that the Society possess in said house and lot. Therefore appoint Micajah Collins, Samuel & Hussey, Isaac Bailey Jun. Daniel Johnson, & Moses Sleeper, Ezra Collins, William Folch Jun., for that purpose, whom are requested to report their progress herein to future Meeting.

Abraham Shearman Jun. reports that according to appointment in the 8th month he has procured 500 Copies of the London Yearly Meeting Epistle, and given attention to their distribution. The cost thereof being $12 the treasurer of the Yearly Meeting is desired to repay to him.

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Newport 20th of 1st mo 1822. —

Present 28 Members. —

Thomas Hazard is appointed Clerk of this Meeting for the year ensuing. —

The Yearly Meeting have continued the same Friends who composed a Meeting for Sufferings last Year to constitute a Meeting for the year ensuing, with the exception of Samuel Rodman, who declined a re-appointment. —

It is concluded, that our Meetings for the ensuing Year

230
1822

be held as they were last Year - Viz at Lynn in the 8th mo
at Dartmouth in the 12 month at Providence in 2d month
at East Greenwich in the 5 month, on the days preceding
the Quarterly Meetings and at Nantucket and at Ports-
mouth on the day of the Each Yearly Meeting - all at
the Third hour in the afternoon -

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Ly-
n 8mo 11 - 1822 - Present twelve members -

This Meeting in the fifth month last having referred
a Request from the Monthly Meeting, to make provision for
the Yearly Meeting and what the expense there
may amount to - and from that Meeting now received a
statement at this time, with an Account amounting to five hundred eighty
four Dollars & Ninety cents; and that Meeting having
drawn on the Yearly Meetings Treasurer, for the sum of
four hundred dollars. Leaves a balance due said Monthly
Meeting of one hundred eighty-four dollars and Ninety one cents;
which the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting is requested to pay
to Benjamin Seabon, agreeably to that Meetings request -

Boston
M.H.

The Committee appointed in the case
of Boston Meeting House & Lot, inform that they
have made some enquiry into the subject, and apprehend
there is little or no prospect of obtain - Releases from
all the Heirs at Law of John Phillips, on account of
the great number of them; their being spread over different
sections of the country, and many of them incapacitated
to make Conveyances, from their being Minors and other
disqualifications -

The

1822 Committee are continued to use their endeavours to obtain reconveyances of Trust, agreeably to their appointments; and provided they should not succeed, that they again consult counsel Law Counsel, respecting what may be the best mode for friends to pursue, in order to obtain a legal possession of said property. and in case it should appear upon the advice of Counsel necessary, immediately to take measures for the recovery of said property, that they then proceed accordingly and report their proceedings to a future Meeting

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence 5th of 2 Month 1823 — Present twenty Members —

1823 2 mo.

This Meeting is informed, by the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting School Funds, that several Legacies and Donations have recently been given to the Yearly Meeting, to be applied to the support and perpetuation of their Boarding School, at Providence — And as a regular & Legal mode of Receiving and Vesting said Donations is desirable, we appoint, David Buffum, Benjamin Borden, Moses Brown, William Rotch Jr. Daniel Johnson, Wm. Hing and John Hiber, to take the subject into consideration, and make such Report thereon, as to them may appear best, at our next Meeting —

Our last Yearly Meeting, proposed to the consideration of this Meeting; the Printing an additional number of our Books of Discipline, which obtained the attention of this Meeting, & it appearing, by information, that Friends

Friends, in many Places, are not fully Supplied with them; it is concluded that an additional number be Printed; and the Clerk of this Meeting is desired to request the several Monthly Meeting, to inform the next sitting of this Meeting, what number each Meeting may want, and will be accountable for —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at East Greenwich 30th of 4th Mo. 1828 — Present 11 Members —

The Committee appointed to consider of some regular and Legal mode for our Society to Receive & Hold such Donations and Bequests as have been made to said Society, inform, that they are not ready to report at this time, they are therefore continued and desired to report at our next meeting —

This Meeting received information respecting Subscriptions to our Books of Discipline from divers Monthly Meetings, namely Vanhuchet, Sixty two, Vanhuchet Nothern District, twenty, Greenwich forty, Uxbridge, ten, Falmouth, four, New Bedford, thirty-two Block Island, twenty, Nine, thirty, Smithfield, twenty-five, Swansey twenty — The further consideration of the subject is refered to next Meeting —

The accommodation of the next Yearly Meeting coming under consideration, Rhode Island Monthly Meeting is requested to extend their care to this object as heretofore; and that Meeting is authorized to draw on the Yearly Meeting's Treasury for four hundred Dollars on account of the expence, and desired to report to this Meeting when accomplished —

The London general Epistle of 1823 was received and read in this Meeting, and was to our satisfaction and edification — and Abm Shearman jr is requested to have five hundred Copies thereof printed, and distributed to the several Monthly Meetings, and report to this Meeting when accomplished —

Abraham Shearman presented an account for printing &c. leaving a balance in his favour of Nine dollars; which is approved; and he requested to call on the Yearly Meeting Treasury for said balance —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Portsmouth, 14th of Sixth Month, 1823.

Present 26 Members.

The Committee appointed in the 2d Month to consider of some regular and legal mode of receiving and vesting such donations as have been made to our Society, presented an Essay of an Act to authorize and enable the Yearly Meeting of Friends for a New England to receive, hold, manage, and dispose of property for charitable and benevolent purposes — which they propose if, satisfactory to the Yearly Meeting, should be laid before the Legislature of the State of Rhode Island — which essay being read, and the subject having to us claimed the attention of this Meeting as to be generally united with, is approved, and referred to the Yearly Meeting.

Information was received from the following Monthly Meetings of the number of Books of Discipline wanted by those Meetings viz. Falmouth, 8 — Berwick 3 — Durham 8 — Westport 3. — On the suggestion of a Friend present from Berwick 3 additional copies are taken for that Mo Meeting.

Accounts not yet being received from all our Mo Meetings the subject of printing is referred to our next Meeting for Sufferings

Abraham Shearman Jun. informed that he has procured 500 copies of the London Epistle of 1822, printed, as requested at our last Meeting, and that he has given attention to the distribution of them. — The expense, twelve dollars, he is authorised to call on the Treasury for.

Adjourned to meet at the close of the Yearly Meeting.

234
6 mo.
1823

Eighteenth day met according to adjournment —

Present 29 Members —

All absent the Yearly Meeting have continued the same friends as last year, expecting our friends Sylvester Hicks and Obadiah Brown deceased, to constitute a Meeting for Sufferings —

Thomas Flordand is appointed Clerk for the ensuing Year

It is concluded that the Sittings of this meeting for the present Year be held as follows viz. at Portsmouth in the 7th month at New Bedford in the 12th month, at Providence in the 2d mo. at East Greenwich in the 5th month on the day of the Select Quarterly Meeting at each place; and at Portsmouth on the day of the Yearly Meeting, all on the third hour in the afternoon.

This Meeting has received further information from several Meetings respecting our Books of Discipline, viz. Scalbrook 21, South Kingstown 19 — Westwarwick 3, and the further consideration of the subject is referred to our next Meeting

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Portsmouth 6th of 8th Mo. 1823 present fifteen members —

The further consideration of the subject of Printing our Books of Discipline is referred to our next Meeting, and the Clerk is directed to enquire of such Monthly Meetings as have not forwarded an account of the number they are desirous of having, and request them to inform this Meeting agreeably to former request of this Meeting how many, if any, they will be accountable for —

Rhode Island Monthly Meeting presented an account for making provision for the accommodation of the last Yearly Meeting, amounting to five hundred, eighty one dollars and seventy nine cents, which leaves a Balance due that Meeting of one hundred eighty one dollars and seventy nine Cents which balance the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting is desired to pay to Richard Mitchel agreeably to the directions of that Monthly Meeting —

the following Extracts from the Minutes of the last Yearly Meeting was received viz — At our Yearly Meeting held on Rhode Island, for New England in the 6th mo 1823 —

An Essay of "an Act to authorize and enable the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England to receive, hold, manage and dispose of Property for Charitable and Benevolent uses" being referred to us, by the Meeting for Sufferings, which has had under consideration, the adoption of some regular, and legal mode of receiving and vesting Donations made to the Society; with a more particular view to the greater security and more ready management of the Funds of the Boarding School — & the Subject having been discussed at some length it is referred back to that Meeting, for its mature and deliberate examination, with liberty to act therein as it may deem best; — and with authority to apply to the Legislature of the State on our behalf, when may may in its judgement then for it, to procure the passage of such Act as may meet the views of Friends —

As it may be found necessary prior to another Year, to enter into contracts with, and give discharges to the Executors and Administrators of Friends deceased, who have made Donations to this Meeting, to the Treasurer of the School Fund, or otherwise, in which this Meeting may be taken cognizance, or have contracts of said Donations, — the Meeting for Sufferings is Authorized to enter into any such Contracts, and make any such agreements, or Compromises as to them may appear just and Equitable, — and more particularly to enter into any such Contract or Agreement with the Executors of Obadiah Brown deceased; to receive the sum of fifty thousand dollars as principle, instead of the three thousand dollars annually given by him, and generally to give any acquittances or discharges which may be necessary, on behalf of this Meeting, relative to said Donations — and to vest any sums received in such way as they may deem most expedient —

From the Minutes of said Meeting.

Abm Sherman Jr. Clk —

This Meeting after having carefully attended to the Subject committed to their care, agreed on the form of a Bill or Act, to be offered to the Legislature of the State of Rhode Island, to be passed into a Law; — And it appearing necessary that a Petition or Address accompany said Bill — Moses Brown William Almy & Thomas

8 mo. Committee, are appointed to prepare an Essay and bring to our next
a Meeting. — Adjourned to the 3 day before the first fifth in the
ninth month next, to meet at Friends School House at Providence, on
the 3 hour afternoon of said day

9 mo. At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence 2 of
9th Mo. 1823 — Present eleven members —

The Committee appointed to prepare an Essay of a Petition to the
Legislature of the State of Rhode Island, presented one which is
approved, and David Buffum, Rowland Greene, William Hing.
Benjamin Anthony & Thomas Rowland are appointed to present the
same together with the Essay of a Bill, or form of an Act, which has
been agreed on, by this Meeting, to the next Sessions of the General
Assembly of said State — and Moses Brown, Nicholas Congdon.
David Buffum, William Hing. Royal Southwick & Walter
Allin are appointed to sign said Petition on behalf of this
Meeting —

Contract between Descendants & Meeting for Sufferings

As there is a certain annuity of three thousand dollars,
which accrues to the Yearly Meeting, for the benefit of their Board
ing School, at the decease of Moses Brown, Son of Obadiah
Brown deceased, by virtue of his last Will and Testament; and this
Meeting acting on behalf of — by virtue of the power delegated
to them by the said Yearly Meeting, and being desirous of making
a Compromise with the Executors of the said Obadiah Brown, how
enter into agreement with said Executors, that at the time the
aforesaid Donation shall accrue to said Yearly Meeting, they will
receive the sum of fifty thousand dollars, in lieu of said Annuity
of three thousand dollars, which by the said last Will & Testament
was to be paid annually. To which compromise and contract, the
said Executors, do likewise covenant and agree —

In considering what names, & how many, may be best to intro-
duce into the Bill, proposed to be offered to the Legislature of the
State; it is concluded, that all the names, of the male members of
the School Committee, appointed by the Yearly Meeting, be
inserted — —

Petition

To the General Assembly of the State of Rhode Island
and Providence Plantations —

The Petition of us, whose names, being the Representatives of

9th mo
Petition
General
Assembly
for

The Yearly Meeting of the Society of Friends for New England, during the recess of said Meeting; and being specially authorized, respectfully ask for a Law, to be passed which shall enable said Yearly Meeting, to hold, manage, appropriate and dispose of, real & personal Estate, according to the tenor & an Essay of a Bill, which they take the liberty to offer for the consideration of the Assembly, or in such way and manner as the General Assembly in their Wisdom, may think most proper and advisable ——

The object of the Society in this application, is, that they may be competent in Law and Equity, to receive, hold and appropriate property, for Charitable and Benevolent purposes: — in a further manner, the late Gifts and Devises made to them, as mentioned in the Bill herewith presented ——

The pledges which the Society have heretofore given, of their willingness and desire, to promote the welfare of the community, we hope, will be a sufficient apology for their appearing before the Legislature, and soliciting their aid in carrying into effect the praiseworthy designs of the humane, benevolent and pious Individuals, who have intrusted property to their care and disposal ——

The General Assembly may perceive, if they will please to inspect the Bill which we have taken the liberty to present, that the great object of the Individuals aimed at, as well as the Society at large, is to promote and extend the benefit of a good Education, to the present and succeeding generations —— Not being in a capacity always assisted by the Legislature, to effect this great object, in a manner which will promise to be accompanied with Security and Stability, your Petitioners respectfully solicit your interposition on their behalf ——

9th mo
1823

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence the 2d of 9th Month Twenty eighth Minutes ——

The Committee appointed to lay before the Legislature of the State of Rhode Island, an Essay of an Act to authorize the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England, to receive, hold and appropriate Property for Charitable & Benevolent purposes, Report, that they have attended to their appointment, and that the Bill with an additional Section, limiting the Annual Income, was unanimously passed into a Law by the Legislature. They present to this Meeting a Copy of the aforesaid Act which was read, and directed to be Recorded in order to it being laid before the Yearly Meeting ——

Report of the Meeting for Sufferings

On behalf

1821
2 Mo

23

State of Rhode Island } In General Assembly
Providence Plantations } October Session A.D. 1821

An Act to incorporate and make the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England to receive, hold, manage, appropriate and dispose of Property, for Charitable and Benevolent and other purposes—

It is enacted by the General Assembly, and by the authority thereof it is enacted— That Moses Brown, David Buffum, William Rotch Junr, Rowland Greene, Rowland Robinson, Royal Southwick, David Buffum Junr, Benjamin Wolf, John Osborn, James Hoag, Abraham Wilkinson, William Buffum Junr, William Almy, Ezra Collins, Samuel Thurston, Enoch Reed, Daniel Closson, Benjamin Freeborn, Abraham Shearman, Junr, Edward Cobb, Stephen Jones, Daniel Howland, Jonathan Dennis, Stephen Gould, Nicholas Longden, Paul Saber, Effingham Lapham, William Reid, Moses Shaper, Elijah Shaw, Thomas Ivy, Seneca Howland, Cornelius Howland, John Brown, John Wilbur, Silas Earl, William Jenkins, Moses Sherman, Stephen Chase, Micajah Collins, Walter Allen, Daniel Snowden, Isaac Bosworth, Joseph Metcalf and Obadiah Arnold, together with the other Members of the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England, who with their predecessors for more than a Century past, have usually held their General Annual Meetings in Newport in this State, be, and they are hereby invested with the power usually given to Corporate Bodies for the holding, receiving, managing, disposing and appropriating real and personal Estate, for charitable and Benevolent and other uses, by the Name of the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England; and that they and their Successors being admitted and approved as members of said Yearly Meeting according to their usual Order and Discipline, shall by the Name of the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England aforesaid have perpetual Succession and be able and capable in Law to receive, hold and enjoy by purchase, divise, gift or otherwise, Lands, Tenements, Hereditaments, Goods & Chattels, Estate & Property of every kind, provided the net income thereof shall not in any one year exceed the sum of thirty thousand dollars, of which they shall stand seized and possessed; notwithstanding any mistake or imperfect description in the Gift, Grant or other Transfer & Conveyance thereof, provided the intent be evident, the said Yearly Meeting shall take the same, to use, manage, improve or otherwise dispose of, as the

Will's Pasture to sell and establish such Rules and Regulations relative to the management of said Property, as they may deem expedient: provided the same are not repugnant to the Laws of the United States, and this State; and generally to do and perform all such matters and things relative to the purposes aforesaid that a Corporate Body could have to do and perform: provided nevertheless, that in every case in which any Donation of any kind has been made to the said Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England in trust, or for any particular Object or Purpose, the Intent of the Donor shall be forever regarded, and the Donation shall be forever sacredly employed and appropriated, to the full and faithful execution of the Trust, and the object and purposes of the Donation, according to the true intent and meaning of the Donor thereof —

Section 2. And be it further enacted, that whenever said Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England at their annual or other stated meetings and times and places as they may judge convenient, shall appoint a Clerk or Clerks, Treasurer, Trustees, Committees or other Officers or Agents for any length of time they may deem expedient to act for them, or in their behalf the Clerk or Clerks, Treasurer, Trustees, Committees and other Officers and Agents, which they shall or may appoint in their usual way and manner of appointing them, shall be considered and deemed to be this Officers and Agents enumerated and designated in this Act, —

Section 3. — And whereas certain Devises, Bequests and Donations of real & personal Estate and Annuities have heretofore been made and given by different persons, more especially by the late Obadiah Brown deceased, in and by his last Will & Testament, and Codicil thereto; and also by Sylvester Hicks, Thomas Nelson and Lydia Hillingsh in their last Will and testaments, to and for the use and benefit of the Yearly Meeting aforesaid in their Boarding School or to the said Yearly Meeting of Friends, or to the Committee for Superintending & conducting & the Treasurer of the Yearly Meetings School Committee or to the Treasurer of the School Fund in trust for the use and benefit of said Yearly Meeting's Boarding School; being a School under the government and patronage of said Yearly Meeting: Reference being had to the respective Will and Codicil of the said Obadiah Brown, Sylvester Hicks Thomas Nelson and Lydia Hillingsh for a more particular description of the devises bequests donations and annuities; Be it therefore enacted by the authority aforesaid, that all and singular the devises, bequests, donations and annuities aforesaid, principle, income and interest are hereby declared to be charities and devises, bequests, donations and annuities to charitable uses: and that as such they be holden, used, managed improved and disposed of to the Objects and purposes expressed by the respective Donators & devisors thereof according to their true intent and meaning —

Section 4th — And be it further enacted, That all the Estate & Property of every kind now holden and belonging to said Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England, either for their own use or in trust is hereby secured and confirmed unto them the said Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England and to their Successors in the capacity in which they stand by virtue of this Act; and they are hereby authorized and impowered to hold, enjoy and manage and otherwise dispose of, all the Estate and Property belonging to said Yearly Meeting of Friends in their own right or according to the provisions of the Trust —

Sect. 5th — And be it further enacted, That the said Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England, be and they are hereby authorized and impowered by virtue of this Act, to demand, take, hold, use & manage all Estates and Property, and all bequests and devises, donations and annuities, principle, income, and interest given to and for the use of said Yearly Meetings Boarding School, or to the said Yearly Meeting of Friends, or to their Treasurer appointed by the Meeting for Sufferings of said Yearly Meeting or to the Yearly Meetings School Committee, or to the Treasurer of the Yearly Meetings School Fund, or which are made and given, subject to the direction management and control of the said Yearly Meeting of Friends, or to their School Committee or the Committee for Sufferings of said Yearly Meeting of Friends or to the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting of Friends for the time being, or to any other person or persons in whatever capacity in trust for the use and benefit of their School, or for the use and benefit of any Literary, moral or religious Institutions of said Yearly Meeting of Friends, or under their care and patronage, and especially the devises, bequests, donations and annuities, principal income and interest, given as before herein stated, by Obadiah Brown, Thomas Folsom, Lydia Tilling hast and Sylvester Wickes; all and singular of the said Estates and Property, devises, bequests, donations and annuities, principal, income and interest are hereby secured and confirmed to the said Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England, in the capacity in which they stand by virtue of this Act to be by them taken, holden, managed improved and appropriated, to the faithful execution of the trust, and to the objects and purposes for which the same

were given according to the true intent and meaning of the benefactors and donors thereof. And the same aforesaid Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England are hereby authorized and impowered to bargain, contract and compromise for, and respecting all and singular the estates and property, devises, bequests, donations and annuities in this section mentioned, with the person or persons having the possession, control and management thereof. And it shall be lawful for, moreover the duty of all and every person or persons, now having, or who may hereafter have the control, possession or management of any such estates and property, devises, bequests, donations and annuities (whether they have the possession control and management thereof as trustees, Executors, or Administrators, or in whatever capacity they have the same) by good and sufficient Deeds to transfer, assign and deliver to the said Yearly Meeting for New England, in their capacity as aforesaid, all and singular said estates and property, bequests, devises, donations and annuities, principal income and interest, or the amount and value of the same as may be agreed contracted or compromised for, by them the said Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England; and in particular, the agreement or compromise already made between the Executors of the said Obadiah Brown and the said Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England, whereby the said Yearly Meeting have agreed to receive fifty thousand dollars as a principal or fund, in lieu of the annuity of three thousand dollars, which by the last Will and Testament of the said Obadiah Brown is to be paid annually after one year from the time of his decease, for the use and benefit of the said Yearly Meetings Boarding School: and also the agreement or compromise by which the said Yearly Meeting is to receive one other sum of fifty thousand dollars as a principal or fund, at the decease of Dorcas Brown, Widow of the said Obadiah Brown, in lieu of an annuity of three thousand dollars, which at her decease accrues, and by the aforesaid last Will and testament of the said Obadiah Brown, is to be paid for the use and benefit of the said Yearly Meetings Boarding School are hereby confirmed by this Act. And the person or persons so transferring, assigning and delivering to said Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England, hereby authorized to receive the same, shall thereupon and thenceforward forever be exonerated and discharged from their Trusteeship, and from all manner of liability and accountability for said estates and property, devises, bequests, donations and annuities, principal income and interest, to all intents and purposes whatever: And the rest and residue and remainder of the estates and property of the said Obadiah Brown, [illegible] Thomas Nelson & Lydia Hollingshead and all and every person and persons which now is, or may hereafter be held by Executors, Administrators

Legatees

242 Trustees, Trusts & Heirs shall also be exonerate and discharged from
all liability & accountability touching & concerning the said yearly & Meeting
thus granted and incorporated become seized and possessed of such
Real estates or property, bequeath, devises, donations and annuities
aforesaid, principal income and interest in Trust; and they are
hereby declared Trustees thereof, to hold, manage, improve and
appropriate the same; to the faithful execution of the Trusts &
the objects and purposes for which the same was devised and
Given, according to the true intent and meaning of the benefactors
and donors thereof, and shall be accountable for the same, and
for the faithful use, management and appropriation thereof, in Law
and Equity —

Sect. 6th — And be it further enacted, That the said yearly & Meeting of
Friends for New England hereby authorized, may retain a Clerk or
Secretary, Treasurer, Trustee, Committee, or other Officers, or Agents,
which it may appoint from time to time, power and authority to
manage and improve the Estates and Funds in the possession of the
said yearly & Meeting of Friends, for the use of Literary, Moral and
Religious Institutions according to the directions given them, by the
said yearly & Meeting, and subject always to such rules and regulations
as said yearly & Meeting, in their usual mode of transacting their business,
may establish —

Sect. 7th — And whereas there are Lands, Properties and Estates belonging
to the & Monthly and other subordinate & Meetings of Friends, which com-
pose a part of the yearly & Meeting of Friends for New England, which
said yearly & Meeting do not claim property in; It is therefore
hereby further enacted and declared; That it is not the intent or
meaning of this Act, that the government power or authority
of said yearly & Meeting, shall extend over any such Monthly, any
further or more, than is now vested by law, in said yearly & Meeting, accord-
ing to their Rules and Disciplines, heretofore established by said
yearly & Meeting —

Sect. 8th — And be it further enacted, That nothing in this & Act,
shall in law or equity, or in any measure affect any of the usages, customs,
rules, modes and rules of Discipline, used and established by said
yearly & Meeting of Friends or in their Committee & Meeting for suffering
& other subordinate branches of the said yearly & Meeting of Friends,
touching their religious concerns; all which usages, customs, modes,
Orders, rules and Discipline are reserved to them, in the same way
and manner, and with the same effect, as though this & Act had
not been passed —

State of Rhode Island & Providence Plantations } Secretaries Office December 1st A.D. 1798.

I Certify, That the foregoing contain a true Copy of the Act entitled "An Act to authorize and enable the Grand Charity of Friends in New England, to receive, hold, manage, appropriate and dispose of Property for Charitable and Benevolent and other purposes" passed at the Session of the General Assembly of this State in October last and taken from the Record in my Office

Witness Henry Bowen Secry

By his Excellency William C Gibbs Governor, Captain General and Commander in Chief of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations.

Be it known, That the name "Henry Bowen" to the foregoing attestation subscribed, is the proper hand writing of Henry Bowen Esqr. now at the time of subscribing the same Secretary of said State; duly elected and qualified according to Law, Whereto unto his said attestation full faith and credit are to be rendered.

Given under my hand and the Seal of said State at Providence this first day of December in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety nine and of Independence the twenty eighth

Wm C Gibbs

By his Excellency's command.

Henry Bowen Secry

[illegible] Town situate in Tempest, State of Connecticut having been given by our Beloved friend Sylvester Wickes deceased in and by his last Will & Testament, as appears by the following paragraph, namely "I give to the Yearly & Meeting of the people called Quakers of New England, my Farm in Tempest that I bought of Clark and Nightingale, the net income of which to be appropriated in aid of the Charitable Fund of the Yearly Meeting to be established by the Friends in Providence; to them & their people called Quakers, and to their Successors in the same faith, forever" Rowland Greene is authorized to receive and pay over to the Treasurer of the Yearly & Meeting aforesaid from time to time of said Farm that have already become due, and also to agree with a suitable person as Tenant for the ensuing year

Adjourn'd to 9 o'clock this morning

Evening met by adjournment -- present 11 Members

2d 2d mo

The Committee appointed in the case of Baston & Hatting Town not having instituted any legal proceedings, as authorized by a minute of this Meeting, for recovering which have been appointed by the Committee; The Overseers of Salem & Monthly & Meeting are requested to inform a Meeting, whether Council is Shall advise adviseable to institute Baston, on a Petition for the recovery of said Property, and able to the provisions of an Act passed by the Legislature of the State of Massachusetts in the year of 1793 entitled "An Act &c." Said Overseers and the Committee appointed by this & Meeting is requested to render said Overseers such assistance in the case as they may be able to do — and report to this & Meeting their progress herein —

Baston & Hatting

It appears that Windham & Monthly & Meeting has concluded to take twelve Copies of our Books of Discipline —

Books of Discipline

5 mo

At a & Meeting for Ministry held at Rush Greenwich 5th of 5th mo 1824 present ten members —

The subject of making provision for the accommodation of our next Yearly & Meeting coming under consideration, we appoint Hester & Hen & Nicholas Congdon, David Buffum and Thomas Hewland, to make the necessary provision, and

Provision for next Yearly & Meeting

Rhode Island & Monthly & Meeting are requested to send their appointment to the Committee, to effect said object; and the committee are authorized to call on the Yearly & Meetings Treasurer for four Hundred dollars to be applied for that purpose —

Rent and Greene informed this Meeting that he had received and paid over to the Treasurer of the Yearly & Meeting's School Fund the Rents which had fallen due from the Farm in Scituate given by its late Owners, and likewise had united the same once, as directed —

Rent Greene in behalf of Scituate School

I received a request from our friend Elisha Bates of & Hartford, recommended by the Meeting for Sufferings of the Yearly & Meeting of Ohio to furnish him with such information as may be within the profession of Friends, relative to the Discipline and general History &c of the Society of Friends in this Yearly & Meeting from its earliest establishment. In compliance with said request, & Mark Coffin and & Abraham Sherman are united to make such collection as may be conveniently obtained and forward the same to him —

Elisha Bates

11th mo 1824 The Meeting for Sufferings held at Portsmouth on Rhode Island 6th mo 12th 1824 Present thirty Members

Books of discipline

It is now concluded by this Meeting to have five hundred of our Books of Discipline reprinted and the Subject of adding any other conclusions of the Yearly Meeting than those already directed to be inserted since the book was printed should be made (or introduced in to the new publication) is referred to the Yearly Meeting for their consideration and direction

Obadiah Davis and Abraham Sherman Jr are appointed to review the books and Papers belonging to this Meeting in the possession of the former Clerk and deliver them to the present

Adjourned to meet at the close of the Yearly Meeting

6th mo 18th Met by adjournment Present thirty-eight Members

It appears that the Yearly Meeting has appointed, Moses Brown, David Buffum, William Almy, Rowland Greene, Thomas Haviland, Abraham Sherman Jr Benjamin Almy Obadiah Davis, James Tucker, Jeremiah Brown, Edmund Gibbs, Micajah Collins, Stephen Jones, Moses Hooper, Moses Dow Isaac Bassett Jr Estes Newhall, Royal Southwick, Daniel Haviland, Cornelius Haviland, Walter Allen, Richard Dane Francis Feber, William Cobb, Peleg Mitchell, Joshua Meader, Thomas Anthony, John Hilton, John Brown, Ashton Chase, Daniel Johnson, Mark Coffin, Thomas Ivy, Benjamin Ivy, Nicholas Congdon, John Cotton, John B Davis, William Jenkins, Arnold Congdon, Jonathan Dennis, Ashton Gould, David Buffum Jr, William Reid, Abijah Chase, Peter Case to constitute a Meeting for Sufferings for the ensuing year

Thomas Haviland is appointed Clerk of this Meeting for this year

Meeting about Minute The following Minute having been made at a former Sitting of the Meeting for Sufferings, but then directed "not to be recorded for the present," is now revived, and approved by this Meeting, and directed to be recorded Viz. It appears by a recent Publication, Edited in Pennsylvania, under the authority of Emmor Kimber, purporting to be an Essay written by our friend Job Scott deceased, Entitled "Salvation by Christ" In the Preface of which, by the Editor, several paragraphs are extracted from the Records of this Meeting for Sufferings

for

2 Mo 1824 6 Mo.

for New England are introduced; which Extracts have been obtained & published, without the Privity or knowledge of said C Meeting. The circumstance, has given much concern and occasion to the C Meeting. and we appoint Thomas Rowland, Rowland Greene C Wm Shearman Jr Edward Cook, Wm C Hiny & Benjamin Freeborn, to take the Subject under their consideration, make such enquiries relative to the Publication; as they may think necessary and report such a Statement, to a future C Meeting, as they may deem expedient —

Times of holding our C Meetings

It is concluded that our C Meetings be held as last year Viz at Portsmouth in the 3d month, at New Bedford in the 12th mo. at Providence in the 2d month, at East Greenwich in the fifth month; on the days of the Select Quarterly C Meeting at each of those places, and at Portsmouth on the day of the Select Yearly C Meeting — all on the third Hour, in the afternoon of those days —

8 Mo. C At a C Meeting for Sufferings held at Portsmouth on Rhode Island 4th of 8th Mo. 1824 — Present nineteen members —

Report of Committee entrusted with Books &c

The Committee appointed to receive the Books & Papers belonging to this C Meeting, in the hands of the former Clerk, Report, by which it appears, that they have not wholly accomplished the object of their appointment. We appoint Lawton Chase & William Reid in addition to said Committee & they requested to report at a future meeting —

Action thereon &c

The Committee appointed to make provision for the accommodation of the last Yearly C Meeting, report an account amounting to four hundred fifty seven dollars and Eighty cents, which have a balance of fifty seven dollars and eighty cents due said Committee, which the yearly C Meetings Treasurer is desired to pay to Daniel Buffum or Order —

The following Extract from the Minutes of our last Yearly C Meeting was received, and Rowland Greene, William C Hiny, John Wilbur, Moses Brown, Abraham Shearman Jr and Thomas Rowland, are appointed to take into consideration, what additional

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8 mo.

conclusions of the yearly Meeting if any, it may be best to add to the Book of Discipline; and report to a future Meeting —

Extracts from Meeting

It appearing by the Records of the Meeting for sufferings to which Meeting was referred the subject of reprinting the Discipline that it has concluded to have five hundred Copies printed; and proceed to on to consideration of adding any other of the conclusions of the Yearly Meeting, than those already directed to be inserted, since the Book was printed — the whole subject is referred to the Meeting for sufferings, now about to be appointed, to consider of, & arrange such additional Conclusions of this Meeting now on Record, as it may judge proper — & report to our next Yearly Meeting —

It appearing by the Records of the Meeting for Sufferings that an Act to authorize and enable the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England to receive, hold, manage, appropriate and dispose of Property for Charitable, Benevolent and other purposes" has been granted by the Legislature of Rhode Island, agreeably to the wishes of Friends at our last Yearly Meeting; said Act is accepted by this Meeting, and directed to be placed upon our Records; & the Original, with the Certificates of its Authenticity, deposited with our Friend Moses Brown —, as keeper of the yearly Meeting's papers —

Extracted from the Minutes of our Yearly Meeting of Friends held on Rhode Island in the sixth month 1824 —

Abm Shearman Jr Clerk —

Committee Defend Action Commit

This Meeting is informed by a Sub Committee of the Yearly Meeting Boarding School that an Action for the possession of a part of a Farm lying in Pomfret, Connecticut, given by our deceased Friend Sylvester Wickes, to the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England, for the benefit of Charity Scholars in their Boarding School, in Providence — Whereupon we appoint Rowland Greene, William Jenkins, William Almy & Thomas Rowland, to attend to the Subject, on behalf of this Meeting & pursue such course in the Investigation and Defence of the Rights of said Yearly Meeting, as shall appear to them after consulting suitable Law-counsellors necessary and proper —

Adjourned to the 31st of the present Month at Providence, to meet at the 3d hour in the afternoon of said day —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held by adjournment at Providence 31st of 8th mo. 1824 — Present 16 Members —

The following report of the Committee appointed respecting the papers in the hands of the former Clerk of this Meeting was received — and the further consideration of the Subject is referred to our next Meeting —

We have agreeably to our appointment called on Samuel Boardman for the Books & Papers in his possession, belonging to the Meeting for Sufferings. He informed us, that all the papers now in his possession, were some of the Original Manuscript writings of Job Scott, a list of which is annexed; and that he should hold them until it was decided, to whom they belong —

On behalf of the Committee — — Oliver Chase
Wm Slade —

New Bedford 8th mo. 24th 1824 —

N. B. A number of Books and Papers had been deliv'd to the Committee before — —

Adjourned to the 8th hour to morrow morning —

First day of ninth month, met by adjournment — —
Present 12 Members —

Several Paragraphs marked as Extracts from the Records of the Meeting for Sufferings for New England, having been prefixed to a work recently published at Philadelphia, Entitled "Salvation by Christ," purporting to be written by our friend Job Scott — And the fact of such Extracts having been obtained and published, without the consent or knowledge of the Meeting, involving an apparent breach of confidence on the part of those who had been instrumental in such publication having been a cause of much concern and exercise to the Meeting; a Committee was appointed in the sixth month last, to take the Subject under consideration, and Report to a future Meeting, the result of such enquiries, relative to the Publication as they might think it necessary to make — The Committee now report, which is accepted, and is as followeth —

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3 Mo

We have attended to the Objects of our appointment, and have ascertained that, at some time during the past Year, certain Extracts were made from the Records of the 5th Month Meeting for Sufferings, by a Friend, who was then a member of that Meeting; and who, did not state to the Clerk his object in examining the Records -- that such Extracts were handed, as he informed us, to another who was not a Member of the Meeting for Sufferings - and this as he further informed us, without any enquiry or knowledge, on his part, as to what use was to be made of them - beyond which we have been unable to trace them, or to ascertain any thing further relative to their publication. --

We have carefully examined the Records of the Meeting for Sufferings, and find that the two Extracts from its minutes made in the year 1806, and embraced in the Editors Preface, have no relation to the work to which they are prefixed --

Whether the Minute of 1820 applies to the work, as it now appears, we have not the means of fully ascertaining; a Copy of one part only of Job Scott's Essays on "Salvation by Christ" being now in our Possession; or within the present control of the Meeting --

We do not find that any correction of these Pieces was ever made by this Meeting, or by any Committee acting under its direction. --

To shew the views of our deceased Friend in respect to his own writings and the disposition of them, we subjoin the following Extracts from a Letter written by him during his last Illness, and addressed to his Parents, Brothers & Sisters, Relations and Friends. "I am very apprehensive that most of my Writings are far from properly digested, and some of them I believe might be a good deal better guarded." but I submit all to the careful inspection conviction and determination of my Friends"

Providence 8th Mo. 31st 1824 --

Thos. Howland
Benj.n Freeborn
William Almy
Rowland Gorham
Abr.m Sherman

Being informed thro' the medium of a communication made on behalf of a Committee of the Meeting for Sufferings of Philadelphia, to a Member of this Meeting, that the Publication above alluded to, has been matter of concern to Friends of that Meeting, and that they are desirous of such information as we may be possessed of

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9 Mo.

of relation to a subject, painful to us as well as them; the Clerk is directed to forward a Copy of the aforegoing Report, and the minute by which it is preceded, to that Meeting, accompanied with an assurance of our sympathy with them; and concern for the preservation of good order and Correct Principles — and sign such communication on behalf of this Meeting —

Adjourned to the second hour this afternoon —

2 Afternoon; met by adjournment. Present, 11 members —

The general Epistle from the Yearly Meeting of Friends held in London in the 5th Month Last was received and read to our Edification and Comfort: And Abraham Sharman is appointed to have two thousand Copies printed, and distribute the same to the several Quarterly Meetings —

12 mo. 1st

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Nine Rutland 1st of 12 Mo. 1824 — Present twelve members —

The Clerk being absent, Abraham Sharman Jr is appointed Clerk for this time —

Abm. Sharman Jr informs that, agreeably to appointment he has had printed two thousand Copies of the London Epistle of the present Year, and that they have been forwarded to the several Quarterly Meetings; the expence of which is thirty two dollars — which the Treasurer of the Yearly is requested to pay to his Order —

The Minutes of our last meeting not being present, any Subject of reference to this are necessarily continued to our next Meeting

A Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence 2 of 2mo 1825 — Present nineteen Members —

The subject reposed by this Meeting in the 8 month last respecting the Books & Papers belonging to this Meeting now in the keeping of the former Clerk which he declined giving up, as appears by a report of our Committee appointed to receive them, coming again under consideration, we appoint, John Wilbour, Benja Trafton, Wm Almy & Thomas Rowland, to again visit the Individual, and endeavour to induce him to deliver up all the papers he now withholds, which he received of this meeting as their Clerk and provided, he should continue to refuse to give them up to the Meeting — The Committee are desired to attend New Bedford Monthly Meeting, and lay the case before that Meeting, & report to this Meeting, before such steps are taken if it shall appear to them best —

Some Information having been given at this time respecting [illegible] Meeting House and Lot in Providence [illegible] Meeting have not yet [illegible] Meeting appoint [illegible] Meeting to examine the Records of the [illegible] and [illegible] as have knowledge of the [illegible] Lot as well as the building of the House and report to this Meeting with such information as they may be able to give relating to the purchase of the Lot and building of the House and may be able to find also a copy of the Sale from the Supreme Court of Massachusetts to us conveying the Premises —

Adjourned to the third day before the first fifth day in next month, to meet at Providence at the third hour in the afternoon —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence the 1st of 3mo 1825 by adjournment present [illegible] the Clerk being absent [illegible] for this time —

Rowland Green is appointed the Committee appointed in the 2 month last on the subject of the Books & Papers belonging to this Meeting in the hands of the former Clerk.

The Committee appointed in the second month last on the subject of the Boston Meeting House &c. now report as follows viz. The Committee in the case of Boston Meeting House Report, that the Records of the Yearly Meeting and of Salem Monthly & Quarterly Meetings on the subject have been examined, and copies thereof are ready to be laid before the Meeting — but the ashy of the doings of the Supreme Court, as a Court of Chancery or Equity in the case have not been procured — but may inform; that the advice of a Counsellor employed in the case, has informed some of the Committee; that the case is now clear that friends may take possession of the Meeting House & Lot without further delay —

Boston Meeting House &c.

Moses Brown
Isaac Bassett Jr.

Which being read is accepted — We also received the Copies of Minutes therein referred to of the Yearly Meeting and of Salem Quarterly and monthly Meetings — From the Report it appears that the title is now clearly vested in Friends — and it being considered by this Meeting that it would be beneficial to Society, to sell the present House it being so decayed as to be considered unprofitable, and at the same time not advisable to repair it — The Overseers of Salem Monthly Meeting are requested to make sale of said House, and Report to this Meeting when accomplished —

Order to sell House

Adjourned to 7 o'Clock this evening —

Evening met according to adjournment — Present 16 Members —

The Subject of enlarging the Building for the better accommodation of the Yearly Meetings Boarding School, was introduced by the following minute from the School Committee, viz't, It appears by the Report of the Sub Committee, that, the number of Scholars has so increased that more room is necessary for the proper accommodation and safety of the Scholars in this School: which subject was deemed the deliberate ~~consideration~~ consideration of the Committee and has resulted in the appointment of Nicholas Longden, Moses Brown, W.m Ming & W.m Jenkins, a Committee; to spread the subject before the next Meeting for Sufferings for their consideration on the propriety of enlarging the building and the present reason — And if the Meeting for Sufferings advise the enlargement

Enlargement of School House

as committee may about forty feet in length in extension of each wing
of the House the Sub Committee are requested to take the necessary
charge of procuring the materials, and cause the said additions to be made
as early in the season as circumstances may admit of —

Extract from the Minutes of the School Committee —

Which proposition having been solidly considered & fully united
we unite with the School Committee, to enlarge the House by adding
about forty feet in length to each Wing, the better to accommodate the
enlarged number of Scholars, and with a view to the greater safety of
their healths, it being represented to this Meeting, that there are Funds at
the disposal of the School Committee to accomplish the enlargement —
the disposal of the School Committee to accomplish the enlargement —

6th mo. At a Meeting for Sufferings held at East Greenwich the 6th of
6th mo. 1825 —— Present 20 Members —

Report of Committee on Redman —

The Committee appointed in the 2nd & 3 months last, to again
make application to Samuel Redman the former Clerk of this meeting
for the Books and Papers which he has hitherto declined giving up — Informs
That the way not opening for the Committee to make him a visit,
they had written him a Letter on the Subject, endeavouring to induce
him to review the matter, in hopes that, thereby he might become dis-
posed to accord with the request of this Meeting — And that they had
not as yet received any reply from him —

Petition from Overseers of Providence

The Subject of providing for the accommodations for the sitting
of our next Yearly Meeting coming under consideration, we appoint
Oliver Chas., Nicholas Longden, Stephen Gould & Thomas Haw-
kins to make the necessary provision — & the Treasurer of the
Meeting is requested to hand their assistance said Committee to effect
this Object — And said Committee are authorized to draw on the Yearly
Meeting's Treasurer for four hundred dollars to be applied to that
purpose —

The Executors of the last Will and Testament of our friend Oba-
diah Brown deceased proposing to this Meeting to give security to the
Yearly Meeting for the payment of the fifty thousand dollars which
will accrue to said Meeting for the benefit of their Boarding School
on the decease of Dorcas Brown his widow in order that they may obtain
a discharge from the duties of their Executorship, by the Court of Probate
for the town of Providence, and to prevent as much as may be the casualties
to which the Subject in its present state is liable — And it appearing
to this Meeting, that it will not only be safe for the Society & the
School but likewise ensure additional safety to the final reception

and

3 mo. ment of this Legacy, after the Decision for the consideration of the Yearly Meeting that if they should approve thereof, they may make arrangements to obtain satisfactory security, and to give a discharge to said Executors, and generally the Estate of our deceased Friend and the Residuary Legatee —

6 mo. A Meeting for Sufferings held at Portsmouth the 11th of 6th mo. 1825 — Present 31 Members —

The Committee to take into consideration, what additional conclusions of the Yearly Meeting might be best to introduce into the Book of Discipline now about to be printed — report the following — Viz. On the Subject of Book of Discipline inspecting Testimonies and Memorials of deceased Friends, of 1811 —

On receiving Pensions for rendering Military Services by three new Members — Of 1818 — And the Minute revived in 1823 respecting Pensions under dealing — Which is accepted and directed to be laid before the ensuing Yearly Meeting

One of the Overseers of Salem Monthly Meeting informed, that agreeably to the advice of this Meeting, they had sold the Meeting House in Boston, the avails of which, being $1600/ has been applied in defraying the expences attending the recovery Boston Meeting House of the Title of the premises — And this Meeting on reflecting further on the subject, have thought proper to revive for the consideration of the yearly Meeting the selling of the Lot also, on which the House stood, and the purchasing another Lot for the accommodation of Friends —

Adjourned to the close of the Yearly Meeting —

6 mo. 11 Met by adjournment. Present 29 Members

It appears that the Yearly Meeting have authorized the same Friends to attend this Meeting next year, to constitute a Meeting for Sufferings, for the year ensuing —

The Clerk is directed to [illegible]

It is concluded that the time and Places of holding our Stated Meetings be, for the year ensuing, as they were last year; that which was held at Salem in the 8th mo. in last year to be held at Salem in the 8th mo. in this year. that held at Lynn, in the same month, on the 2d day of the week. that Select Quarterly Meeting, to meet at the like hour in the afternoon.

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Lynn, 17th of 8mo. 1825

Present twelve members

Read the following Extracts from the Minutes of our last Yearly Meeting — viz.

At our Yearly Meeting of Friends held on Rhode Island for New England from the 12th to the 16th of 6mo. 1825 —

The Subject of the Situation of the People of Colour and the care of the Yearly Meeting of North Carolina having been introduced to this Meeting by the Epistle from that Yearly Meeting, claimed our sympathetic consideration, and Friends being desirous of further information on the Subject, it is referred to our Meeting for Sufferings, to correspond with Yearly Meeting having charge of said people, if way open for it, in order to obtain such information, and, lay the result of their correspondence before our next Yearly Meeting; and in the mean time should they receive such information through this or any other channel, as to induce them to believe that a visit can be usefully extended previous to another Year, they are left at liberty to act in the case as after due deliberation they may deem advisable. ——

"The Meeting for Sufferings to which was referred the subject of selecting and arranging for the proposed new Edition of our Book of Discipline; any additions & conclusions of this Meeting, now on record respecting the introduction of the following Articles, viz." See former minute of this Meeting for Sufferings ... "which additions are approved and directed to be made, and the Meeting for Sufferings is authorized & requested to have a new

mo
225

Caution of the Book of Discipline pointed, and to take the necessary care in superintending the Press."

It appears from the Records of the Meeting for Sufferings that the title to the Meeting House Lot in Boston is now fully vested in Friends — And the following minute of that Meeting being read, viz^t —

"One of the Overseers of Salem Monthly Meeting informs, that the Meeting House in Boston has been sold agreeably to the advice of this Meeting" (see former minute) "The Subject is referred back to the Meeting for Sufferings, with authority to sell said Meeting House Lot in Boston whenever they may deem it advisable, and to purchase another Lot in that City, for the accomodation of Friends, to be applied to the uses to which the former Lot was appropriated by the original Grantors and Donors —

Extracted from the Minutes of
Said Meeting,
Sam^l Sherman^n Clk

In conformity with the aforegoing advice of our last Yearly Meeting, we appoint Micajah Collins, Rowland Greene, William Almy & Thomas Rowland, to write to the Meeting for Sufferings of North Carolina, requesting that Meeting to give such information relative to the Situation of the People of Colour under their care as they may deem Proper, and lay the result of such correspondence before our next Meeting —

The Subject of reprinting our Book of Discipline being referred back to this Meeting, as directed by the aforegoing minute of our last Yearly Meeting, we appoint Elisha Davis & John Russel Davis, to have five Hundred Copies Printed & Bound in Leather, and to superintend the Press and Francis Gates & Abraham Shearman Jr are requested to assist said Committee

The subject respecting selling Friends Meeting House Lot in Boston and purchasing another Lot, to be appropriated to the Purposes to which the former has been devoted, having by our last Yearly Meeting been referred back to this Meeting, we appoint the aforegoing Minute of said Yearly Meeting, claiming our deliberate consideration; we appoint Rowland Green, William Hilton, Henry Mayo, Josiah Collins, Stephen Chase, John Wilbur, John R Davis & Thomas Howland, to make sale of said Lot and to purchase another Lot to be appropriated to the purposes to which the present Lot has been appropriated, whenever those objects can with propriety be effected, and the Overseers of Salem Monthly Meeting are desired to lend their special aid and assistance in accomplishing these purposes, agreeably to the views of said Yearly Meeting — And said Committee are directed whenever sale of said present Lot shall be made, to place the proceeds arising from the sale, in the Yearly Meetings Treasury, and the Treasurer of said Yearly Meeting is hereby authorized and directed to pay back to said Committee, such part thereof as said Committee may become obliged to pay in the purchase of another Lot, as aforesaid — and the remainder of the proceeds, arising from the sale of the present Lot, to be held subject to the payment of any Expenses of building a Meeting House on the Lot which shall be purchased for that purpose — And said Committee are directed to apply to the Civil Authority of the City of Boston for liberty in case sale is made of the present Lot to remove the remains of those who have been there Interred — and in case liberty to remove them shall be obtained, to deposit them in some other proper place, as conformable to the wishes of the relatives of the deceased as may be consistent

The Committee appointed to make provision for the accommodation of our last Yearly Meeting, presented a Bill amounting to $490.25 and they having drawn $400 Dollars, the balance of $90.25 the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting is requested to pay to Nathan Gould, on this Order —

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12 mo.

A Meeting for sufferings held at New Bedford 30th of 11th mo. 1825 —
Present eleven Members —

Respecting People of Color in N.C. —

The Committee appointed in the 8th month last to unite to the Meeting for sufferings of North Carolina respecting the People of Colour and their Care, informs that they have paid some attention to the Subject, but are not ready to report; they are desired to pay further attention to that Subject and report to our next meeting

2 mo. 1826

A Meeting for sufferings held at Sandwich 1st of 2nd mo 1826 — Present ten Members —

The Clerk being absent, Nathaniel Shaw is appointed Clerk for this time —

The Committee appointed in the eighth month last to unite with the Meeting for sufferings of North Carolina respecting the People of Colour under the care of that Yearly Meeting are continued, the object of their appointment not being yet accomplished —

Relative to Books

This Meeting is informed that several Books treating on the doctrines of Friends, by Elisha Bates a member of our Society in the Yearly Meeting of Ohio, have been published with the approbation of the Meeting for sufferings of that Yearly Meeting — and the Subject coming with some weight upon Friends minds, we appoint Moses Brown, John Wilbur, Rowland Greene, Abiah Gould and Nathan Chase to examine the works in question, and lay Copies of them with their judgment upon them, before our next Meeting

Adjourned to the 3 instant at the ninth hour in the morning —

Third day — Met pursuant to adjournment —
Present thirteen Members —

The General Epistle from the Yearly Meeting of Friends in London in the 5th month last, has been received and read to our satisfaction and ordered to be recorded in our Minutes — and from the full Unity which has been felt and expressed in this Meeting we are united to print three thousand Copies for more general circulation and Thomas Evans & William Jenkins are appointed to procure the Printing to be done: & they are requested to cause an Extract of this minute to be printed with it: and to distribute the usual number to our several Quarterly Meetings —

Ordered to meet at Providence on third day before the first fifth day in the third month next, at the third hour in the afternoon —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence by adjournment 28th of 2mo 1826 — Present Ten members —

The Clerk being absent William Jenkins is appointed Clerk for this time —

The Committee appointed in the eighth month last to correspond with the Meeting for Sufferings of the Yearly Meeting of North Carolina, on the subject of the people of Colour under their care, inform, that a friend of that Yearly Meeting has been with them, on the subject they being unacquainted with the manner of composing that Meeting for Sufferings —

The Committee appointed at last Meeting, to examine the Books written by our friend Elisha Bates, on the Doctrines of Friends, Report, that they have paid some attention to the subject, but have not yet had opportunity to examine all of them — They are continued to report, in the fifth month next —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence by adjournment 28th of 3mo 1826 — Present 14 members —

The Committee appointed to examine the Books written by our friend Elisha Bates, not being yet ready to make full report, they are continued, and requested to report in the sixth month next —

The subject of providing accommodations for the holding of our next Yearly Meeting, coming under consideration, we appoint Elisha Tyler, Nicholas Comfort, Stephen Gould and Thomas Harrison, to make the necessary provision: & likewise pay such attention to repairing the floor of Friends Meeting House in the town of New Bedford, [illegible]

with a few Years Josh, by the Yearly Meeting as shall appear to them to be requisite — And Rhode Island Monthly Meeting is requested to lend their aid, to said Committee; to effect said Object And the Committee are authorized to draw on the Treasurer for four Hundred Dollars, to be applied to the purposes aforesaid —

The Committee appointed to have three thousand Copies of the London General Epistle printed — have reported that they have accomplished said Object, and that the cost of Printing, is forty nine Dollars & fifty cents; which amount the Treasurer is requested to pay to said Committee —

Several Testimonies, or Memorials of Deceased Friends were presented, read and considered by this Meeting and the further consideration of them, is referred to a future Meeting; And William Storey, John Tillinghast, Abraham Shearman Jr, Stephen Gould, Rachael Greene, and Thomas Hazard, are appointed a Committee to carefully examine them, and propose such alterations or abridgements, if any, as may appear to them to be expedient and report to a future Meeting —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Portsmouth on Rhode Island 10th of 6 mo. 1826 —

Present thirty-two Members —

In consequence of the attention of the Committee appointed by this Meeting to attend the Meeting for Sufferings of North Carolina Yearly Meeting, respecting the People of Colour under their care of that Yearly Meeting, the following communication has been received, Namely. To the Meeting for Sufferings of the Yearly Meeting of Friends in Rhode Island —

Dear Friends — Your very acceptable Letter of the 28th of 2nd mo. signed on behalf of your Committee, by Micajah Collins was read in our Meeting: It gave us much satisfaction to hear that our distant Brethren, Sympathize with us, on the great responsibility and care that has devolved upon us with respect to the People of colour, that have been conveyed by numbers of Society, to Agents appointed by the Yearly Meeting, in order to prevent them from being men into Slavery by disowned members, and their offspring

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and Kidnapping of any kind; It is unnecessary to say much more to inform you, why Society was induced to take this growing burden upon itself, because we have already signified this in our Epistle alluded to in your Letter, but as we do not now recollect the particulars of that Epistle, we can in a few words inform you, that at the time, that Society required its members to manumit their Slaves, there was no Law in North Carolina to establish their Rights as free men, and they were liable to be taken up and sold into Slavery again; and a number were thus sold —

Our Yearly Meeting applied to the Legislature unavailingly for the Space of twenty or thirty years and perhaps longer, for a law to establish the Freedom of our Slaves: Society then adopted the above Plan, as the only alternative to prevent them from being carried into perpetual slavery — And the Legislature of North Carolina appears of late more disposed to lighten, than to loose the bands of Oppression; and we are the more stimulated on this account to send our Slaves to free Governments while the way is open. For our Slaves free are, according to Law, and must remain so, while they remain in North Carolina or Until there is a change in the Laws of the Government. It will be understood by you, that they are not the property of individuals but of Society by agency. We have availed ourselves of this Privilege by an act of the Legislature incorporating all religious Societies to hold property not exceeding such amount, and for special purposes &c.

The number at the time of our last Yearly Meeting was between seven and eight hundred, since then we have sent about one hundred to Ohio and Indianna, about fifty have shipped for Liberia. Two friends have been appointed by our meeting for sufferings to travel through the Eastern and Contentny quarters, in the eastern parts of the State where the greater numbers of these people of colour are, in order to consult them with respect to their willingness to go to ~~Liberia~~ free governments, and which they prefer, they have lately returned and inform us that, about two hundred are willing to go to Liberia, and one hundred to Hayti. They chartered a Vessel for the latter, to sail the third of Six th Month from Beaufort. Those for Liberia are preparing to go in the autumn next; the agent at Norfolk for the colonizating Society, informs us he thinks it probable that a vessel will then sail, they mostly all appear to be willing to go to some place where they can enjoy the rights of free men, but very few now appear to incline to the west.

As to the probable cost we cannot ascertain, but from the expenses that have accrued upon assisting those few that have gone and going soon, it will not cost less than $20 a head (including travelling to port, and necessary equipments) and perhaps more, — Our last Yearly meeting directed the sum of $1000

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6 mo.
Letter from Meeting for Sufferings &c.

To be raised by the subordinate meetings for this special purpose which has been promptly attended to perhaps no sum has ever been raised with more ease and chearfulness, tho it was double what had ever been required of us before by the yearly meeting. A friend in Philadelphia has aided us with a donation of $1500 some months ago and we are informed he has lately added $1100 more — The yearly meeting of New York has given us a draft for $250 — The Yearly meeting of Philadelphia has written feelingly to us on the subject and requested further information; other Yearly Meetings in their epistles express their sympathy

We are generally of opinion here that Liberia in Africa is the most proper place for the people of colour to go to, we have endeavoured to lay before them the probable consequences that will attend them if they abide here, and the advantages and disadvantages that may attend the several places where we propose aiding them too, then leave them to their own choice. — We believe it is or ought to be a common cause as respects our society and we believe from a combination of circumstances and probable events the sooner we remove them the better for them & for society, and it will no doubt have a powerfull effect on the community at large, in forwarding the way for universal emancipation. If you desire more information, please to write having in this given you what we have thought the most essential we conclude your friends

8th month 15th

Committee on behalf of the Meeting for Sufferings of North Carolina

Nathan Hunt
Jeremiah Hubbard

N.B. we expect to appoint two friends to sail with our people to Hayti to introduce them to the proper authority there and to see to their being settled in that place &c.

J H

And the Subject having again claimed the serious attention & Sympathy of this Meeting, we have deemed it expedient to lay the Subject in this way before the ensuing yearly Meeting, and to propose for the consideration of said Meeting, the opening of a Subscription during some period of its Sitting, in order to qualify said Meeting to give some aid

1826 6 mo 10

to Friends of North Carolina in their endeavours most effectually to 263
secure the rights of those unhappy persons under their care, as well
as for the relief of Friends of that Yearly Meeting ——

Respecting E. Bates Books

The Committee appointed to examine some books written by our friend Elisha Bates inform that that most of them have so far attended to the subject as to be willing to recommend the republishing of one of them, namely, the one entitled Extracts &c, the for the consideration and disposition of the subject, is referred to a future meeting, and the committee continued, and requested to confer with the author, who is now acceptably with us, respecting the subject ——

Respecting Bequest for Friends School

One of the executors of the last Will and testament of our friend Obadiah Brown deceased, informed this meeting, that by the decease of our friend Dorcas Brown on the 15th of last month the legacy left to her by her deceased husband, Obadiah Brown to continue during her natural life has now fallen to the yearly meeting, and that it is desirable to the executors that, the yearly meeting should make provision to receive said legacy, and discharge the executors from their obligations which they are bound for the payment of said legacy; This meeting is also further informed, that a Library of Books, Maps &c, given in the aforesaid will, for the use of friends Boarding School, has been received and placed in the school; Numbering one four hundred volumes ——

Respecting Donation of Thomas Folsom

This meeting is likewise further informed that Benjamin Folsom, Executor, of the last will and testament of his brother, Thomas Folsom is desirous of settling with the court of Probate in the County of Rockingham, State of New Hampshire and to give up his further attention to the residuary legacy, given to friends school:

And it appearing that the court deems it requisite that some person should be authorized by the Yearly Meeting, to attend said court, and give a discharge to the executors: And as the treasurer of the school fund, heretofore appointed to receive said legacy, from his advanced age, is rendered unable to perform so long a journey, it appears necessary that some other person should be appointed Authorized, to attend to the subject, and execute on behalf of the Yearly Meeting, all necessary discharges, and receive such other or further sums or Obligations if any there should be which of right ought to belong to said yearly meeting, by virtue of said donation & Such Information, this meeting has judged proper to lay before the ensuing Yearly Meeting, in this way for their consideration; The committee

Books of Discipline printed

appointed to have a new edition of the hundred Copies of the Book of discipline printed, Report, that the printing is accomplished, and a part bound & the remainder will soon be finished ——
The whole expense, will be be about two hundred and eighty Dollars,
The treasurer of the Yearly Meeting is requested to pay to said committee
The sum of two hundred Dollars on account;

The committee appointed to examine sundry testimonies of

26 4
6 mo. 10

Deceased friends presented to a former Meeting, Namely, Two from Rhode Island Monthly Meeting, one concerning Elizabeth Mott, and the concerning Samuel Thurston, and the Testimonies of Memorial Thurston from Swanzy Mo Meeting, concerning Jonathan Chace, and one from New Bedford, concerning James Davis, reported at this time, which were again read, and now approved by this meeting and directed to be laid before our ensuing Yearly Meeting

The clerk is directed to lay the records of this meeting before our ensuing Yearly Meeting; This meeting adjourns to the close of the Yearly Meeting

6 mo. 15

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Newport at the close of the Yearly Meeting 15th of 6 mo. 1826—

Adjourned to the 3 hour this afternoon——

Afternoon met by adjournment—— Present 26 members.

Thomas Thurston is appointed Clerk for the year ensuing——

Holding Meeting for the ensuing year

It is concluded that our meetings be held as last Year Namely, in the eighth month at Lynn, at New Bedford in 12th mo. at Providence in the 2 mo. at Greenwich in the 5th mo. on the days of holding the Select Quarterly Meetings at each place, and at Portsmouth R.I. on the day of the Select Yearly Meeting: all at the 3 hour in the afternoon of each day——

1826

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at New Bedford 4. 4th of 12. mo. 1826—— Present 14 members——

Several subjects relative to the concerns of Society have claimed the attention of this Meeting, and among these the situation of the Meeting House Lot in Boston

Boston Lot

some information respecting which has been given—— the Committee of this Meeting appointed in that subject, are requested to give such further information at our next Meeting as they may be able to render——

1827
1st mo. 31st

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence
31st of 1st mo. 1827 Present eighteen Members

The Clerk being absent William Jenkins is appointed for
service for this time

One of the Committee appointed in the 2nd mo 1825 on the Subject
of the Boston Meeting House Lot, gave this Meeting some infor-
mation relating thereto — There being but few of that Commit-
tee present, some of them detained at home by indisposition, and
our friend Micajah Collins having deceased, we appoint in
addition to the former Committee, Daniel Johnson, Moses Brown,
John Osborn, Abraham Sharman Jr and Benjamin
Freeborn, who are desired to confer on the Subject, and report
to a future sitting of this meeting —

Lot in Boston

The Committee appointed in the second month last to
examine some of the Publications of our friend Elisha Bates
of Ohio Report, "That they have received information that
he proposes printing a new Edition of his Book of Exhorts
&c with some additions" — It is therefore concluded not to
reprint the present Edition of that work —

Books & Bates

Adjourned to meet at half past five this morning
evening —

2nd mo 1st Met by adjournment —
Present seventeen Members —

Lot in Boston

The Committee in the case of Friends Meeting-house
lot in Boston, inform that they have had a conference on
the subject, but have not come to any conclusion — They are
continued and desired to give further attention to the same
and report to the adjournment of this Meeting —

Book of Disciplines

Abraham Sharman Jr on Behalf of the Com.
appointed to have the Books of Discipline printed, informed
that the work was accomplished, and that there remains
on hand about ninety Copies not disposed of —

Abraham Sharman is authorized to retain ninety copies
for sale and forward the residue to the Treasurer of the Yearly
Meeting for the use of Friends —

Wm Sharman Jr & Co have presented their Bill for
printing this Edition of the Discipline amounting to $2[illegible]
three hundred dollars having been before him advanced, the balance
of seventy six dollars & forty seven [illegible] to the Treasurer of the Yearly
Meeting is requested to pay —

Adjourned to meet in course on third day the 27th of
the present month at the third hour in the afternoon —

2th
1827
2mo 27

A Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence
by adjournment 2d of 2mo 1827 —
Present 11 members —

The Clerk being absent, Edmund Congdon is appointed
for this time — —

The Committee on the subject of Friends Meeting
House Lot in Boston, inform that they have not been able
to obtain a Lot that they think would be suitable
to erect another Meeting House upon — They are continued
to make further enquiry, And it is thought desirable
by this Meeting, that they visit Boston before our next
Meeting, in order more fully to ascertain, whether a suit-
able Lot can be obtained — and report —

Barclay

The Trustees of Obadiah Brown's Benevolent Fund
for spreading religious Books, being about to reprint Barclay's
Apology some Extracts, from the testimonies of Friends
concerning him, and some information respecting his life
and writings having been collected by a Committee named
at our last Meeting for that purpose, were read, and approved
by this Meeting — It is thought that the Extracts may
be usefully attached to that work — — — —

(A Meeting for Sufferings held at Greenwich
2d of 6mo 1827 — Present ten Members —

Boston
Lot

The Committee appointed in the case of Meeting
House Lot in Boston, being able to make further report
at this time, They are continued, and requested, to make report
as soon as they may be able to accomplish the object of their
appointment — —

Rowse
Dr 27

The subject of making the necessary accommodations
for the holding of our next Yearly Meeting, coming under con-
sideration of the meeting, we appoint, Thomas Rowland, Oliver
Chace and Nicholas Congdon, to take the necessary care —
And that each Monthly Meeting is requested to appoint said
Committee in making those necessary arrangements — Said
Committee are authorized to draw on the Yearly Meetings Treasurer
for four hundred dollars to be appropriated to that purpose —

A Copy of this minute is directed to each Monthly Meeting
with a Copy of this minute —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Portsmouth
R. Island the 9th of 6th mo. 1807 - Present 24 members.

The Committee in the case of the Boston Meeting House
Lot not being able to report further progress on the subject
at this time, they are continued, and specially requested
to pay as speedy attention to the case as the circumstances
connected with the subject will admit.

A Memorial concerning our beloved Friend Micajah
Collins, deceased, by the Monthly Meeting of Salem, and
approved by Salem Quarterly meeting was laid before
this meeting and read; and after deliberate consideration
it is concluded to refer the further consideration and
examination of it to Stephen & Chase, Thos. Rowland,
Wm. Almy, Moses Sheppi, Isaac Borden jr. and
Rowland Green, who are requested to report the result
of their deliberations to a future sitting of this meeting -
Adjourned to 9 o'clock on second day morning the
11th inst. at Newport -

Second day met by adjournment - Present 23 members -
The Committee appointed further to examine the Memorial
presented by Salem M. Meeting reported the same
with a few alterations, which being approved, it is
directed to be laid before the ensuing Yearly Meeting -

This Meeting having had the subject under consideration
proposes to the Yearly Meeting the appointment of a
Committee, with which Friends from foreign countries
who may be led to visit us in the service of Truth, may
advise, and which may render them on behalf of
Society such friendly assistance in promoting the
objects of their concern in coming among us, as said
Committee, from time to time may deem advisable -

The Clerk of this meeting is directed to lay the proceedings
of this meeting before the Yearly Meeting -

This meeting adjourns to the close of the Yearly
Meeting -

5th day the 11th met agreeably to adjournment —
Present thirty members —

The Yearly Meeting having continued the same Friends with the exception of our beloved Friend Micajah Collins deceased constitute a Meeting for sufferings for the ensuing Year, Thomas Howland is appointed Clerk of this Meeting —

It is concluded to hold our Meetings for the ensuing Year at the following times and places, namely, on the seventh day after the holding of Rhode Island Quarterly Meetings, in the 8th 11th 2 and 5th months, to meet at Friends Boarding School in Providence, at the 9th hour in the morning of each day, and at Portsmouth, on Rhode Island, at the 3 hour in the afternoon, on the day of holding the Select Yearly Meeting

The following Minute of the Yearly Meeting was recieved "The Meeting for sufferings is authorized to appoint a Committee agreeably to their recommendation, to extend a friendly and suitable assistance to friends from other Yearly Meetings who may be led from time to time to visit us in the service of truth" — Whereupon we appoint, Stephen Gould, Wm. Hiney, Abraham Shearman Jr, Isaac Bassett Jr. Wm. Cole Moses Kelsey, Thomas Howland, David Buffum Jr. Wm. Jenkins and John Brown to act as circumstances may require, agreeably to the views of said Yearly Meeting —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence 8mo. 8th mo. 4th 1827 — present seventeen Members — The Clerk being absent, we appoint William Jenkins to act in service for this time —

The following extract from the Minutes of our last Yearly Meeting was recieved —

"A Testimony of Salem Monthly Meeting concerning our late friend Micajah Collins was read in this Meeting, and being approved is directed to be placed on record — And as there are divers Testimonials of deceased Friends now on record that have never been published, it is recommended to this Meeting for Sufferings, to make a careful inspection of said Testimon

with a view of may shortly then open for it to the publication of them; or of such Extracts as they may deem it expedient to make" — Agreeably to said recommendation, the aforesaid Moses Brown, Stephen Gould, Abraham Sharman & Wm. Almy, John Wilbur, John Osborn, & Thos. Rowland to make a careful inspection of those Testimonials which have been issued Concerning deceased Friends within this Yearly Meeting, with a view to their publication — And the same Friends are desired to give their attention to the more extensive circulation of suitable Books, explanatory of the Doctrines, and peculiar Testimonies of our Society, in accordance with the concern of the Yearly Meeting as manifested in the following Minute of said Meeting

Comm. on Memorials

Books

"The subject of the more extensive circulation of suitable Books, explanatory of the Doctrines and peculiar Testimonies of our Society claiming the attention of this Meeting — It is our conclusion that the Meeting for sufferings be encouraged to pay attention to this Object, in order that our Members may be more generally provided with such Publications" —

Minute of Mtg. in Balto.

The Committee appointed by this Meeting to provide for Friends at the time of the late Yearly Meeting, presented their Account, by which it appears there is a balance due to said Committee of $164 21/100 dollars — The Treasurer is requested to pay said balance to Stephen Gould —

Adjourned to half past two o'Clock this afternoon — —

Afternoon met by adjournment, —

Lot in Boston

The Committee on the subject of the Meeting House Lot in Boston presented the following Report — "The Committee in the case of Boston Meeting House, report, that the Records of the Yearly Meeting, and of Salem Monthly Meeting & Quarterly Meeting on the subject have been examined, and Copies of them are ready to be laid before the Meeting, but the copy of the doings of the Supreme Court as a Court of Chancery, or Equity in the case have not been procured but may inform that the advice of a Counsellor employed in the case has informed some of the Committee, that the Case is now clear that Friends may have possession

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1824
8 mo.

acceptance, or account of Society in Boston: — That it being understood, that the sum of thirty five hundred Dollars will satisfy these Claims — they recommend that this sum be paid out of the proceeds of said Sale, to such Committee of Salem M.o M.g. as may be authorized to receive it, provided, that in consideration hereof, said Meeting agrees to relinquish all claim upon said property, and upon the Yearly Meeting for services rendered and sums expended by them — And that the sum which may remain, after this Payment and the purchase of another Lot, be paid into the Yearly Meetings Treasury, conformably to a Minute of this Meeting, made in the 8mo. 1825; subject so far as it may be wanted for that purpose, to the Order of the Comtee having the care of building the proposed Meeting House — The Deed of the Lot of Land which may be purchased, they propose should be taken in the name of the Yearly Meeting, in its Legal Capacity —

On behalf of the Comtee Nathan Shaw Jr.

Read 8mo 4. 1827 —

Which Report is accepted: — And we appoint Wm. Almy, Thomas Howland, John Osborn, Nathan Shaw Jr. & Wm. Jenkins a Committee to carry into effect the recommendations contained therein, as soon as it may appear practicable — and the Overseers of Salem M.o M.g. are desired to lend their aid in the accomplishment of the objects of this Meeting, agreeably to our present conclusion and in accordance with our Minute of 8 month 1825 —

The Committee appointed to examine some of the writings of our friend Elisha Bates of Ohio, made the following Report, viz. — Agreeably to appointment, we of the Committee to examine the Book entitled, "The Doctrines of Friends, or the Principles of the Christian Religion as held by the Society of Friends, commonly called Quakers written by our friend Elisha Bates, and approved by the Meeting for sufferings of this Yearly Meeting, Report, that we consider it a judicious well written Book, and in accordance with the primitive Doctrines of Friends and we think it worthy of the adoption of this Meeting, and desire that a number of copies may be

to those who are unacquainted therewith.—

Providence 4th of 2mo. 1827.

Moses Brown
John Wilbur
Stephen Gould

which is acceptable to this Meeting, and we recommend to the several Monthly Meetings within this Yearly Meeting to open subscriptions for this work, and inform this Meeting of the number of Copies subscribed for in their respective Meetings when measures will be taken by this Meeting to supply them. — The price will, probably, not exceed one Dollar. — The Clerk is requested to furnish each Monthly Meeting with a printed copy of this Minute. — —

Bates' Book to be printed

The Epistle from our last Yearly Meeting to the subordinate Meetings within its limits, having been read in this Meeting, and it appearing to us that a more general distribution of it among our members would be useful, we conclude to print five hundred Copies for that purpose, and Abm. Sharman Jr. is requested to procure them to be printed, and forward them to the several Quarterly Meetings; and the Treasurer of this Yearly Meeting is directed to pay the expence of Printing.—

Epistle to be printed

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence 3d of 11 mo. 1827. — Present fourteen Members. —

The General printed Epistle from the Yearly Meeting of Friends, held in London, 5th month last, was received & read: and apprehending, that useful information would be given & general circulation of it among Friends of this Yearly Meeting, concluded to have five hundred copies printed, and sent to the several Quarterly & Monthly Meetings for distribution, and Abraham Sharman Jr. is appointed to procure them printed, and forward them to said Meetings; and report a Bill of the Expence to this meeting. —

London Epistle

A Testimony from the Monthly Meeting of Dover approved, by Dover Quarterly Meeting, concerning our deceased Friends Martha Osborn and Hide was received to our Comfort. — Abraham Sharman Jr. and Stephen A Chase are appointed to carefully examine it, and report it to an adjournment of this Meeting. —

Testimony of Dover Monthly Meeting concerning Martha Osborn and Hide

Received the following Extract from a Town Monthly Meeting, respecting the Life & [illegible] by the Quarterly

Monthly

1827
Nov.

Meeting in the City of Boston — Jonas "The following communication was received from the Meeting for Sufferings, relative to the Meeting House Lot, in Boston" — "and the proposition therein contained, as respects remunerating this Meeting for certain expenses for the recovery of the Lot &c. is acceded to by this Meeting; and the Overseers are appointed a Committee to receive said sum of Thirtyfive hundred Dollars, on our behalf, and also, convey all the interest this Meeting has in said Lot, agreeably to the wishes of this Meeting for Sufferings.

The Clerk is directed to forward an Extract of this minute to the Clerk of the Meeting for Sufferings

Extracted from the Minutes of Salem Monthly Meeting of Friends, held at Lynn — 8th mo. 9th 1827 —

Daniel Johnson Clerk"

William Jenkins informs that he has forwarded to the several Monthly Meetings, the proposition to open subscriptions for the Book, recommended at our last Meeting.

Adjourned to the 5th hour this afternoon —

Afternoon — Met by adjournment —

The subject of corresponding with the Meeting for Sufferings of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting, on the concerns of Society, being feelingly introduced to the consideration of this Meeting; and apprehending usefulness will arise from such a correspondence, appoint, William Hiney, Moses Brown, Abraham Shearman Jr. Stephen Chase, William Jenkins and Thos. Hazard, to prepare an Essay to that Meeting — also, if may should open therefor, to the Meeting for Sufferings of New York Yearly Meeting; and present to the adjournment of this Meeting

Adjourned, to meet at friends Meeting House, in this Town, on second day, the 5th Instant, at the 9th hour in the morning.

Second day morning, the 5th met by adjournment —

Present 12 Members —

The Memorial of our deceased friends Marble Colson and Wife was presented by the Committee, which, after some small alterations is approved, and directed to be laid before our next Yearly Meeting —

Memorial of Marble Colson & Wife approved

1992
4 mo.

The Committee, on the subject of Correspondence with other Meetings for Sufferings, presented one, to that of Philadelphia, which being approved, the Clerk is directed to sign the same on behalf of this Meeting, and forward to that Meeting for Sufferings.—

To the Meeting for Sufferings in Philadelphia;—

Dear Friends The object of all Associations of a religious nature, being, for the furtherance and support of a common cause, by the joint efforts of those associated; it follows, as a necessary consequence; that a free communication of each others views, under proper influence, cannot but be productive of good, to this common Cause.—

We, as a religious Society, having thro' infinite Mercy, for a long series of Years, been favoured, in great degree, to feel ourselves collected, one Feeble, concerned for the furtherance of our cause, and bowed for the support of the same principles & testimonies, are, as it has appeared to us, under strong & sacred obligations, to use every means, which, in the wisdom of Truth, are made known to us, to preserve, unbroken, this precious bond of unity.—

Under these considerations, our minds, during our present sitting, have been turned, with anxious solicitude, towards some of our distant brethren; with desires for them as for ourselves, that by an attention & submission to the cementing influence of Divine Love, we may still enjoy a continuance of unity, in the bond of peace.—

We have heard, with no small degree of painful anxiety, that within the bounds of your Yearly Meeting, Associations have been formed, and meetings held, by members of our Religious Society, not authorized by our Discipline; and out of the usual course of our proceedings.—

And being fully persuaded, that our worthy Predecessors, were, under the influence of the Truth enabled to establish that system of Discipline, which has been eminently useful, for our preservation in times past, we cannot but view all innovations upon it, such as that, to which we have alluded, as an evidence of a want of due submission in the minds of such, to the regulating and humbling power of Truth, in the authority of which, the Discipline, we doubt not, was first established.—

1827
1829
11 mo.

We trust, we shall not be justly charged with any
undue; exclusive or sectarian views, when we say, that
such is our regard for the efficacy of our Christian Principles,
and the peculiar Creed & Testimonies of our religious Society,
that we feel ourselves bound, (without our consent or ap-
-probation) from any measures, tending to lay waste, either
these Principles or Testimonies. — (Nor is this withholding,
as we have been led to view it, inconsistent, with true
Christian Charity) - for while we earnestly desire, to cul-
-tivate this precious feeling towards all, we cannot, if we
would, avoid, the sacred obligation, to support, unim-
-paired, our uniform profession of the Doctrines of Jesus
Christ, as they have been believed in, and professed by us as
a People, from our first rise. — Nor is there ought in this
obligation inconsistent with a proper regard for the
honest Opinions of our fellow men. —

We are therefore concerned, at this time, kindly to
salute you, to express our sympathy with you in your
trials situations, and so far as may be, to strengthen and
encourage you, to a faithful discharge of those all-important
and duties devolving upon you, under the present peculi-
-arly trying circumstances; and to open the way for an
interchange between us, of such advice and information,
as may be necessary for us, to act understandingly in
our mutual intercourse, and that we may be apprized,
what the feelings are among you, stand in the Unity of the body,
that to the acts of such, we may give our proper respect,
without hazard of giving countenance to any, who seek
to lay waste, the Doctrines of the Society, its Testimonies
and Practice. —

May the strengthening Arm, of the great Shepherd
of Israel, be your support: and may you be encouraged,
in the consideration, that we shall yet reap, if we faint
not. —

Stephen C Chase is appointed, in addition, to the
committee appointed in the eighth month last, "to inspect
Memorials of deceased Friends and for the distribution of
Books".

2d mo.

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence 9th of 2 mo. 1828 — Present twenty Members —

The following acceptable Epistle from the Meeting for Sufferings in Philadelphia was received —

To the Meeting for Sufferings held on Rhode Island for New England —

Dear Friends — The sympathy of our distant brethren manifested in seasons of trial and peculiar difficulty, is grateful. We believe it is consistent with the wise ordering of the great Head of the Church, that when one part of the Body suffers, the other members should in measure partake with it — The reception of your Epistle, has not only furnished renewed evidence of your brotherly regard & fellow feeling towards us, within whose borders division has been permitted to enter, but it has also tended, afresh to quicken our interest in your welfare; and the prosperity of Truth generally —

It is probable, that though various sources, you have been informed, that a disaffected spirit manifested itself during during the time of our last Yearly Meeting — during a number of our members to convene in a separate capacity, who also held a Meeting in the 6th month, from both which they issued Addresses, inviting those of their party to withdraw from our communion: Unwearied efforts have been made in the City and Country, from that time to the present, to accomplish that object. — Assemblies composed of various members have been publickly and privately convened, for the purpose of instilling prejudice into the unwary, systematizing their plans of operations, and securing all who could be influenced to join with them in the separation — The division has so far progressed, that the separatists hold meetings bearing the names of nearly all our Quarterly and many of the Monthly Meetings — In the 10th month last they held a meeting in this City, in which they assumed the title of our Yearly Meeting and issued another address, purporting to be, from this Body, thereby shewing their disregard of candour and justice, in thus veiling their cover, while they were completing the schism, by instituting a distinct association which cannot be acknowledged by correspondence Society —

The information which we are now enabled to convey is general, but it may serve for the present, to apprize you of the necessity of care in receiving and forwarding Certificates: in the latter it would be proper to ascertain the name of the Body, whose station

Epistle from Meeting for Sufferings Philada.

friends to be concerned in a regular testimonies of removal
so that they may reach the meeting for which they are designed.

Whenever we may be prepared to give an entire statement of the
situation of the different branches of this Yearly Meeting, we shall
endeavour to furnish our friends of other Yearly Meetings with it.

For the progress of this devastating spirit, confusion & distress
have been introduced into families and meetings. Many faithful
are keenly concerned for the support of our Testimonies
and Discipline, being surrounded with a succession of afflicting
events, arising from the workings of this crafty deceitful spirit,
are brought under close exercise, in order that they might
act consistently with the leadings of truth, & the honor
and dignity of our holy profession. And thus it is
necessary for the faithful protection of the great Shepherd of
Israel, who sleepeth not by day nor slumbereth by night,
heavenly help has been extended in the time of need, and a
way opened for his dependent children where there appeared
to be no way. ——— The almost every Meeting a remnant has
been preserved in support of our Discipline and Order, altho
in some Places, previous to a division, it seemed likely that
nearly all would be completely carried away; at which
cause reverently to acknowledge; that unworthy as we are
of the least of the Lords favours, he has not wholly forsaken
us, but from season to season, has renewed the Faith of
his devoted servants in his ever enduring mercy: strengthening
them with might in the inner man to make manifest righteousness against that spirit that is nothing short of all
that is called God, and to scatter the sheep from the fold
of Christ, the everlasting Shepherd and Bishop of Souls — that
many have been enabled to adopt the language of the Apostle, that we be troubled on every side, yet not distressed, we are perplexed but not in despair, persecuted but not forsaken, cast
down but not destroyed, desiring always to bear about in
the body, the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life also
of Jesus might be made manifest in our Bodies.

The difficulties with which you are exercised, seem for the
present to be overwhelming but even in the multiply and industry
of the enemy of mankind who is going about seeking

whom he may converse and discover, that there is to believe any
few i any parts within our said, will endeavor in attempts to
divide and distract with the pernicious doctrines of unbelief so
lamentably disseminated in some parts — If from the timely
extension of a vigilant care over the Flock, you may be favoured
to detect and frustrate his inroads, much suffering may be avoided,
and many of the dear young people whose tender minds are sus-
ceptible of ale kinds & all kinds of impressions, be preserved from
the poisonous, withering effects of a libertine infidel spirit —
With the salutation of love, we are your friends & Brethren.
Signed in and on behalf of our Meeting for Sufferings
held in Philadelphia the 21st of 12 mo 1827
Joseph Evans Clerk

Adjourned at the 3 hour this afternoon —

afternoon, met by adjournment, — present thirteen Members —

This a Meeting, a fleeting on the present made, by which the
Yearly Meeting for New England holds Authority in the
State of Massachusetts, it has appeared advisable to apply to
the General Court of that Commonwealth, for a Law to be
passed that may more effectually secure to the said Yearly Meeting,
such property as they now are, or may hereafter become, pos-
sessed of within the limits of said State; the following
Memorial was agreed on — and Daniel Johnson, Stephen
Chase and Isaac Bassett Jr are appointed to present said
Memorial to the General Court now sitting —

To the Senate and House of Representatives of the
Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assem-
bled.

The Memorial of the Yearly Meeting of
Friends for New England respectfully represent, that
the General Assembly of the State of Rhode Island, by
an Act made and passed in the year of our Lord one
thousand eight hundred and twenty three, did constitute
your Memorialists a Body Corporate; and in and by said
Act, among other things, did authorize your Memorialists, to
take and hold property & Estates, to a limited extent, in their said
Corporate Capacity, for and for Religious and Charitable Pur-
poses — And your Memorialists being desirous, that the
said Corporation should be authorized to take and to hold
within the said Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Estates real
or Personal to and for the uses aforesaid, respectfully request,
that the General Court would authorize them, in their cor-
porate capacity as aforesaid, to take and hold in succession,

Memorial to General Court Respt.

within

within the said Commonwealth, estates real or personal to and for Religious and Charitable purposes, under regulations and restrictions, as the Court, in their wisdom may think proper ——

By direction of the Meeting for Sufferings, being the Representatives of the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New-England, at a Meeting of said Representatives, held at Providence, in the State of Rhode Island, on the ninth day of the second Month, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred & twenty eight ——

Thomas Howland Clerk

Adjourned to meet, at this place, on the first day of the fourth month next, at 2 hour in the afternoon of said day ——

1 mo 1st

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence agreeable to adjournment 1st of 4 mo. 1828 ——

Present eleven Members ——

The Clerk being absent, John Osborn is appointed Clerk for this time ——

This Meeting having spent some time in deliberating on divers Subjects relating to the concerns of the Society, concluded to refer the further consideration of them to our next Meeting ——

5 mo. 3d

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence 3d of 5th mo. 1828 ——

Present fourteen Members ——

Ex. of Rights

The following certified Copy of an Act, passed by the Legislature of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, was received ... Viz. Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

In the Year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty eight.

An Act to incorporate the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England ——

Be it

Be it Enacted by the Senate & House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same — That Moses Brown, David Buffum, William Balch Jr. Rowland Green, William Almy, Estes Newhall Daniel Johnson, John Osborn, James Hoag, Abraham Wilkinson, William Buffum Jr. Enoch Bread, Samuel F. Hussey, Abraham Sherman Jr. Daniel Howland Elijah Close, Thomas Howland, William Jenkins, Isaac Bogett Jr. and Nathan Close, together with the other Members of the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England and their Successors, be, and they are hereby made a Body Politick in this Commonwealth by the Name of, The Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England, with power to take and hold in their Corporate Capacity, in the City of Boston and other Places within this Commonwealth, real & personal Estate for Religious and Charitable Purposes. Provided the nett Income thereof shall not exceed in any one Year the sum of Three Thousand dollars —

Sect. 2 Be it further Enacted, that the said Yearly Meeting may from time to time, convey & dispose of & otherwise expend any of said real Estate, and in such manner by the Clerk with called the Meeting for Sufferings, or a Majority of them, under their hands and Seals, as such Meeting shall order and direct according to Law, shall be sufficient to pass the Title of said Yearly Meeting thereto —

Sect. 3 Be it further Enacted that the Clerk may at any time be called or requested at the Expence of the Corporation

In the House of Representatives Feb 20. 1828 —
Passed to be Enacted
William C Jarvis Speaker —

In Senate Feb 21. 1828 —
Passed to be Enacted
Thos A Mills President

Feby 21. 1828 —
Approved
Levi Lincoln

A true Copy of the Original Act —
Attest Edward D Bangs Secretary
of the Commonwealth

Report of Committee on Memorials

The Committee appointed to peruse Testimonies and Memorials of deceased Friends, inform that they have attended to the appointment, but are not prepared to make full report at this time.

A Stream Acct.

Abraham Sharman & Sons that he has obtained five hundred Copies of the London General Epistle to be printed and distributed to the Meetings, as directed in the eleventh month last. He also presents an Acct. the balance of which is Six dollars and fifty cents. The Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting is requested to pay said balance to Abm. Sharman Jr.

Book compiled by Thos. Evans

A Committee having been named in 2nd mo. last to read & consider a Book compiled by Thomas Evans Entitled "An Exposition of the Faith of the Religious Society of Friends, and Foundation of the Christian Religion — principally selected from their early Writings" — in order to enable this Meeting more fully to judge of the expediency of recommending to Friends of this Yearly Meeting to promote Subscriptions therefor, now inform this Meeting, That they have examined the Work, and are united in judgment, that it will be productive of usefulness to our Society, to have it circulated generally among our Members — which view of the Subject being fully accorded with by this Meeting, it is concluded to recommend to Friends of this Yearly Meeting, to open Subscriptions for the Work, in their several Monthly Meetings, and inform this Meeting, the number of Copies, each Monthly Meeting may subscribe for. The work has been approved by the Meeting for Sufferings of Philadelphia: and contains upwards of three hundred pages; and will probably cost, not exceeding one dollar and thirty Cents — The Clerk is directed to furnish each Monthly Meeting with an extract of this minute.

The subject of making Provision for the accommodation of Friends at the ensuing Yearly Meeting, coming

1828
mo
on the
matter
provision
Yearly
Meeting

under the consideration of this Meeting, we appoint Stephen Gould, Benjamin Freeborn, Walter Allen, Rowland Rathbun & Thos Rowland, to make the necessary arrangement & Rhode Island Monthly Meeting is requested to lend their aid to effect this Object — And the Committee is authorized to call on the Yearly Meeting's Treasurer for four hundred dollars to be applied for said purpose —

Adjourned to half past two o'clock this afternoon —

Afternoon, met by adjournment —

Present 12 Members —

The Meeting spent some time in deliberating on the concerns of Society —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Portsmouth, Rhode Island 1st of 6 mo 1828 —

Present thirty Members —

It appears by the returns from most of our Monthly Meetings that they have subscribed for 367 Copies of the work written by our friend Elisha Bates, which was recommended by this Meeting in the eighth month last — William Jenkins is appointed to furnish friends therewith —

The Clerk is directed to lay the proceedings of this Meeting, before our ensuing Yearly Meeting —

Adjourned to the close of the Yearly Meeting —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at New Port 20th of 6th mo 1828

Present 26 members

The Yearly Meeting having concluded to continue the same Friends to constitute a Meeting for Sufferings at this Year, with the exception of Moses Dow deceased, & with the addition of Isaac Nichols — it is agreed, that our Meetings be held at Providence, in Friends Meeting House, on the seventh day of the sitting of the general School Committee, in the 2nd & 11th and seventh months next, to meet at the hour in the morning

and at East Greenwich on the day of holding the Mo
Quarterly Meeting in the fifth month next, and at
Portsmouth on the day of holding the Select Yearly
Meeting to meet at the third hour in the afternoon
of each day —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence
9th of 8mo 1822 —

Present fourteen members —

The Committee appointed to make Provision for
the accommodation of our next Yearly Meeting, Re-
ported a Bill of the expence, amounting to Nineteen
Thirty seven Dollars & fifty two cents — The sum of
four hundred dollars having been advanced said Comm.
the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting is requested to pay the
balance, it being two hundred thirty seven & 52/100 Dol.
Stephen Gould, one of said Committee —

Adjourned to the 3 hour this afternoon —

afternoon met by adjournment —

Received and read the circular Epistle, from
the Yearly Meeting of Friends, held in London, in the 5m
last. The further disposal of it, is referred to the consider
ation of our next meeting —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence
9th of 11mo 1822 —

Present thirteen members —

The disposal of the London Circular Epistle referred
from our last Meeting, being considered at this time, it is
concluded to have five thousand copies printed — and that
fourteen hundred thousands are appointed to have
them printed, and forwarded to the several Quarterly Meet.

Read the following communication from the Meeting for Sufferings
held in Newport the 9th inst. Whereas William
Gould, Thomas Mumford & William Almy are appointed

to make an Essay of unity to said Meeting, and present to the adjournment of this Meeting.—

Dear Friends,

Assembled on the concerns of society, which have devolved upon us, since the sitting of our last Quarterly Meeting; whilst we have had the grateful sense of the Church is the same of our spiritual strength and that would be both the duty & gratification of us all, yet we have been made sensible of this time of great trial, & serious indeed is the duty of the Brethren, and Sisterhood to maintain the joint & private & Domestic in the midst of trials & sufferings: and under this feeling, we desire to address you, who also still have your portion of the cup which, in the present day, are allotted to those who are engaged to manifest their allegiance to their Lawful Saviour and acknowledge Him as their rightful Lord.—

We conclude it is not unknown to you, in this day of deep & awful secret, when great numbers of the members of our Religious Society have connected themselves with those in this day the Divine Character of the Redeemer, and endeavour to invalidate the Holy Scriptures: that many within this Yearly Meeting have united themselves with them, and in so doing, some knowingly, and many, under the influence of a remarkable infatuation, have deserted the Principles, and violated the Order of the Society, and have given the degree of weight to the latter proceeded to an open opposition to the Brethren, and at length set up a Meeting, which they call a Yearly Meeting: commanding neither Strength & Virtue: For the particulars of the circumstances connected herewith we refer you to the accompanying Copy and Extracts from the Minutes of the Yearly Meeting.—

We feel that persons who have left us, have for a long time manifested a disposition to weaken the connexion with the great body of Friends, we feel earnestly engaged to strengthen the ties which connect us with our Brethren throughout the Society, who claim the same precious Faith, once delivered to the Saints, for their portion and inheritance.—

Whilst we design this as a caution to guard them, in the exercise of the exhibition of brotherly affection, we desire that it may lead to a more frequent interchange of views and sentiments, in relation to subjects, in which, we have a common feeling and interest.—

We would call the attention of Parents and Guardians to the necessity of their Children and Wards,

...sent the general inquiries to me, which we think should be
...taken up in the most advantageous for sufferings, with much greater
...regard to deliberation, and in unity, than has subsisted in the
...case: the meeting, for which is thought expressed by the present
...state of society in this Continent; in order that suitable mea-
...sures may be adopted with general approbation for publication and
...dissemination as large as printed as may conduce to the information
...& satisfaction of Friends sufferings in their Families
...& cause of which, has greatly facilitated the wide and extensive
...spread of Error and Unbelief—

...To our dear Friends and Brethren—

...Signed by direction and on behalf of the Meeting for Sufferings
...held in New York, 6th of 10mo 1828—

Samuel Parsons Clk—

...The annexed printed Extracts was received and read—See page
286*——

...The subject of addressing the Meeting for Sufferings of
...Friends in London coming under the consideration of this
...Meeting, and it being united with by the Committee
...appointed to confer with New York Meeting for Sufferings
...with the addition of Jacob Lindley, John Comly & Thomas Evans
...are requested to prepare an Essay as may may
...open and present to this Meeting)—

...Adjourned to meet at 3 o'clock on this day
...following the last fifth day of the present month at the
...second hour in the afternoon—

...Providence 2 of 12 mo 1828— Only eight Members being
...present at the time adjourned to which being insufficient to
...form a regular Meeting, no business was transacted—

1829
2 mo

...At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence 7th of
2 mo 1829

Present fourteen Members

...The Clerk being absent Abraham Shearman Jr is appointed
...Clerk for this time—

...Friends having been engaged during the sitting on Subjects
...intending to satisfy which renewed has yet to conclusion
...adjourn to meet at this place this Afternoon—

See page 284—

Afternoon; met according to adjournment — Present
the same members as in the morning —

The Epistle adopted in the forenoon was read, & the Epistles
presented & Essays of Answers thereto
of New York and London, which were read and considered, in the
forenoon sitting, & with some alterations were adopted
by the Meeting, & directed to be transcribed and forwarded by the
Clerk —

It appearing that there is a Bill pending in the General Assembly
of the State of Rhode Island, by the operation of which, should it
become a Law, The Yearly Meeting for the
benefit of their Boarding School and Endowment, and other Trusts
vested in the Society in that State in Nicholas Longworth
William Jones, John Mumford, Benjamin Brewer, Caleb Gardner
Daniel Jenckes, Thos. Haszard, William Jenkins, and Arnold Congdon
Haszard — to make such representations and Statements to the members of
the Legislature, in their collective or individual capacities, as they may
deem proper on the occasion, and in any other way, that they may
consider consistent endeavour, to procure the interest of the Society
from the contemplated measure —

To the Meeting for Sufferings in New York —
Dear Friends

Your acceptable Epistle of the 10th month last, came duly to hand
in the accompanying papers — The Epistle being read in
our Meeting in the 11th month last, reverently exercised our spirits
in the sensations of your tried situation: There is abundant evidence
in the professions of some of the Separatists of their wide departure
the doctrines of the Gospel as professed by our early Friends; and
their proceedings in shutting Friends out of their Meeting Houses, and
forcibly keeping them out, shew that this departure is producing its
natural fruits in the overthrow of the ordinances of the
the peaceable Spirit and wisdom of Jesus Christ, our holy Redeemer —

However these may claim to be the ancient Society of Friends
such conduct is but a mere exemplification of that disposition which
directed the proceedings of their former predecessors — But it is a
consolation to learn, that Friends have been favoured to meet the
trying dispensation; in humble dependence on Divine Goodness, and
have experienced under their various trials, His sustaining support —

We cordially unite in the desire, and hope, that a more fer-
vent love of our respects and sentiments may produce
mutually useful in the support of the —

We apprehend that it is to be regretted, that in your
last, when the opportunity —
the second Year —
provided for —

2 mo 1829

might have been different or at least the spirit of the resolution
so great cause created - Otherwise it might have been
of the things which [illegible] which [illegible]
be, may be the more readily embraced —

We are [illegible] in your Yearly Meeting
have had a very arduous task to perform in the progress of the
[illegible] that [illegible] among you — and we fervently
hope that Divine wisdom may be mercifully vouchsafed to them
in their deliberations that they may get [illegible] in
bearing a faithful testimony to the Truth — We believe that
[illegible] in supporting a right, [illegible]
will be a source of consolation to [illegible]
that dedication and devotion under a sense of duty have
been given rest to

When the great and most important Principles & Doctrines
of the Christian Religion, as held by us, and by many pre-
decessors, [illegible] and [illegible] in England and [illegible]
ment of the Church have been assailed and [illegible]
and still profess to be its advocates, it becomes [illegible]
[illegible] upon the sure foundation, Christ Jesus, our holy Redem-
er; to be humbly vigilant in the support of our Doctrines
and Testimonies, and in discriminating, between the Faith
and the crude and confused ideas which are attempted to be
[illegible] in the present day, attempting with design
to [illegible] and subvert, the precious faith of the Gospel

We entirely agree with you that [illegible] to be more
united, in [illegible] and distributing Books for the use of
our Members, and for general circulation, than we have [illegible]
before been; and should be useful, both by opening the [illegible]
increasing the circulation of Books calculated to [illegible]
religious Principles and Testimonies. —

This Meeting has, some time past, recommended to our
[illegible] Testimony, entitled "Doctrines
[illegible] by our primitive Friends, Barclay, and also for
[illegible] Exposition of the Doctrines of Friends." It
was [illegible] to be printed two thousand copies of the last
mentioned Work, for distribution among our Members
and others. The [illegible] of our last Yearly Meetings
Epistles were printed and extensively [illegible]
With the circulation of Boothby's Letters we concur [illegible]
[illegible] — [illegible] 3rd mo 1829 — signed &c

From our a Meeting for Sufferings of the Yearly Meet. of Friends for Ohio, held at Richmond in the 2 mo. 1829 —

To the Meeting for Sufferings in London

Dear Friends

In matters of importance, and more especially when there is a weight in the mind to communicate with those interested, and to gain a right opening, the necessary information which may tend to the welfare of the Society at the present time, is very desirable concerned —

The Yearly Meeting of Ohio, in the 9 mo. now proceeding the Yearly Meetings on this Continent, and we believe also those in Europe, will be informed by a Minute to take into consideration the state of Society and prepare to the several Yearly Meetings to be the result of their deliberations — Such a proposition was made some Years past by Philadelphia Yearly Meeting but was not united with by all the Yearly Meetings; and if, on this occasion it is not necessary many, perhaps, to unite to decline —

The proposition from Ohio, has met the approbation of the Yearly Meetings in America, and there is no doubt but the Yearly Meeting in London, will meet with the same approbation, and if a Meeting, such as proposed, could be held in the ninth month last, according to the original proposition made by that Yearly Meeting, but in consequence of not being informed of an alteration of time until the Yearly Meetings had closed, it could not be held; it would be much more than a Yearly Meeting —

We are informed, that Ohio Yearly Meeting has concluded that the appointment of a Committee and proposed Meeting should be in Philadelphia, in the ninth month next Our Yearly Meeting is willing to unite in this, and have no doubt will appoint their appointment, or cause other appointment to be made; in expectation, as we have reason to believe, that there would then be joined by representatives from all the Yearly Meetings of Friends both in Europe and America —

[illegible] dear Friends, that in order to [illegible] our [illegible]
ideas of this [illegible] we do, this [illegible]
and very responsible standing of the Society at this crisis, is one
and not the least of the considerations which has induced us at this
time to offer [illegible] the view of [illegible] Love in
which we [illegible] [illegible] and
we trust [illegible] [illegible], if we were not desirous to [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible]. [illegible] that faith which works by Love and purifies the Heart and
this being the truth as it is in Jesus & our Lord & Saviour Jesus Christ,
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] to be humbly engaged to walk
[illegible] and to mind the same things.

[illegible] [illegible] the early standing of
[illegible] [illegible] in the light of Brethren
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] with them in
[illegible] and we have in being thankful, that Friends in great
[illegible], [illegible] [illegible] mercifully preserved in Society:
although [illegible] and radical division in Principle
[illegible] permitted to overspread, and ravage desolate, the minds
of so many in this Country.— On this account we have no
doubt [illegible] and that Friends
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible],
on the other side of the Water.— The same principles which
have produced this mutual sympathy also concur still
continues to point out, that [illegible] may have a tendency
to preserve the Society upon its ancient foundation, wherever its
members are situated, ought to be viewed as conducive to
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible].

Under this view of the subject, we are induced to believe
that we shall not be considered as improperly intruding upon
you [illegible] when we request that it be [illegible] to be
[illegible] that the Yearly Meeting in London & America
[illegible] be invited in the contemplated deliberations which
[illegible] [illegible]. If it should appear necessary that mea-
[illegible] for the [illegible] of a General Conference, and to us it seems that such
a measure is particularly called for at this time, if may [illegible]
in the opinion of those to be visited, [illegible], almost imme-
diately, after the other Society, either immediately connected
[illegible] [illegible] with consideration, that what may be called
for, on account of the particular state of the Society here, either as
a remedy or preventive, it is not impossible may be usefully
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [

...ought to remember, that the Spirit of Christianity, which the Society is now further engaged to support and ...and against, and forbids those, in its name and ...in many instances, it assumes the outward habiliments of Piety, ...especially in making its first entrance into the mind, and in some ...of the early development of its fruits; for such is its subtlety, ...stratagem, and such the latitude of its transformations, that, although it is in itself, and in its proper shape, immortal, ...and limited sight, but it can, and often does, fashion itself ...to all times, and through the influence of its counterfeits, even ...with the natural will and inclinations of the deceived ...

...are encouraged to believe, that the type of ministry ...which is permitted to attend the Society in many parts of ...it is rightly improved, will yet, through the blessing ...Christ, with ... kingdoms of Men, & Generations of good ...but it already hath, and will continue to have, a tendency to point ...out to Friends the necessity that there is, if we would be the ...ciples of Christ, faithfully to adhere, in faith and practice, ...to the precious Doctrines & Precepts of the Gospel —

...meeting, we feel sympathizing and mournful sentiments to be ...quiet, and at rest, in a few instances, are increasing in the Autumn ...although we are sensible, that there are some professors who ...in profession, but in life and conduct.

...on behalf of the Meeting for Sufferings ...by Wm Shannon ...

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at East Grunwich ...6th of 5th mo. 1829 — Present fifteen members —

Subscriptions for ninety eight Copies of Rd Evans' "Exposition" have been received by this Meeting — Wm Jenkins & Stephen Gould are appointed to forward that number to Nathl the Subscribers, and give information to the several ...Monthly Meetings, which have not forwarded Subscriptions when they may call for them —

On Subject of making Provision for the accomodation of ...ensuing Yearly Meeting coming under consideration — ...Joseph Wm Jenkins, Jonathan Evans, Nathan Gould, Samuel ...Buffum & Thomas Haviland & Nicholas Cowgill, to make the ...necessary arrangements — and Wm Shannon & this Meeting is ...united to be at their disposal to make that Object ...as they may think proper — & the Treasurer is directed ...to be applied for that purpose ...

292
5 mo
1829

John Bailey's Manuscript returned

A Manuscript Essay, pertaining to "Remarks on Asa Rands' "vindication of the Holy Scriptures, as the sufficient and only guide," was presented to this Meeting for Sufferings in the 12 mo 1828. by our Friend John Bailey, since deceased, proposing, that if it should be approved by this Meeting, he have the liberty to publish it, which claimed the attention of this Meeting at that time, and at a subsequent Meeting - but the required opening for this Meeting to proceed further in the examination of the work at that time, the subject was referred until the Meeting should be prepared to resume the consideration. — And the subject having been again in review upon the Manuscript and three Paragraphs read at the time, some of which, as they now stand, in regard to some Doctrinal views, render it necessary in the judgment of this Meeting, in order for publication in its present form. — And it appearing to be less an Answer to Rand's publication, than an Exhibition of the Authors views on subjects not embraced in Rand's book, to reply to which had been previously presented by another friend and published by the Meeting — concluded after deliberately considering the subject, to proceed no further in an examination of the Essay, with a view to its publication from this Meeting, & this Meeting, is at liberty to return the Manuscript to John Bailey, son of our Friend John Bailey deceased who is desirous of having it, — Opening this meeting in a writing "that they are not united with any view to publication," — as per Letter on file, addressed to the Clerk —

6 mo

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Portsmouth Rhode Island 13 of 6 mo 1829 — Present twenty seven members

Received the following communication from the Meeting for Sufferings held in London, which John & Rhoda Brotherly kindness is cordially accepted by this Meeting.

"At a Meeting for Sufferings held in London 3 of 4 mo 1829, This Meeting concluded, as a token of brotherly love to offer to the assistance of each of the Meetings for Sufferings on the American continent connected with our Society the following Books recently published. Viz! —

Two Copies of the Selection of Advices

one of Barclays Catechism and Confession of Faith.
one of 11th part of Piety Promoted.—
The Clerk is directed to forward a Copy of this minute to the said Meetings—

A true Copy, Geo Story Clerk——

It appears that Thirty seven additional copies of "Thomas Evans Exposition" have been subscribed for— A manuscript Essay written by our friend Lucy Bradbury having been presented to this Meeting some time past, for examination, having it optional with this Meeting, to suppress the publication or encourage it, or of returning it to the Author, which has so far claimed the attention of the Meeting at this time, as to deem it proper a committee to appoint to examine said Essay and that they report to a future sitting of this Meeting, and for that purpose William Almy, Moses Draper, Abraham Sharman Jr Thomas Howland and Stephen Chase are appointed

Adjourned to the close of the Yearly Meeting and the Clerk is directed to lay the proceedings of this Meeting before the ensuing Yearly Meeting

At the close of the Yearly Meeting, met according to adjournment—present twenty five Members— The Yearly Meeting having appointed the following Friends to visit the Meeting for Sufferings viz Moses Brown, William Hunt, Howland Greene, Thomas Hazard, Benjamin Hazard, Obadiah Davis, James Tucker Rowland Robinson, Edward Cobb, Abraham Sherman Jr, Stephen Jones, Moses Draper, Isaac Bispel Jr. Esqrs Nicholas Brown & Co. Richard Howland, Walter Allen, Joseph Slocum, William Cobb, Peleg Mitchel, Joshua Wheeler, Thomas Arnold, John Miller, John Brown, Nicholas Miller, Daniel Wilson, Thos Fry, Benjamin Fry, Nicholas Brown, John Colvin, John B Davis, William Perkins, Daniel Congdon Jr, Jonathan Dennis, Abbott Gould, David Buffum, William Wade, Nicholas Chase, Oliver Chase, Caleb Nichols, Samuel Hazard, David Rodman, Matthew Robinson, Moses Brown

Thos Howland is appointed Clerk for the year ensuing—

* Died at her Ancient and worthy Friend David Buffum's, who had long

2 94
6 mo.
14 d

It is concluded that our Meetings be held as last year
namely, at Providence on seventh day following the
first fifth day in the eighth, eleventh and second months
at the ninth hour in the morning, and at East Greenwich
on the day of holding Rhode Island Select Quarterly
Meeting, at the third hour in the afternoon, and at
Portsmouth on Rhode Island on the day of holding the
Select Yearly Meeting, to meet at the third hour in the
afternoon —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence
8th of 9 mo. 1829 — Present fifteen Members —

It is concluded that the Books remaining from the
Meeting for Sufferings in London be placed in the Yearly Meetings Chest
for the present —

The Committee appointed to make provision for the
accommodation of our last Yearly Meeting produced an Acct.
amounting to $170.54 cts. The sum of 100 dollars having been
advanced this Committee, the balance of 70.54 cts. the Treasurer
of the Yearly Meeting is requested to pay the Stephen Gould —

Communications from the Meetings for Sufferings of
New York and Indiana received at this time are referred to our
next Meeting for further consideration —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence
7th of 11th mo. 1829 —

Present fifteen Members —

A Clerk being absent Abm. Shearman Jr. is appointed Clerk
for this time —

A Communication from the Meeting for Sufferings of New
York dated in the 7th mo. last, and one from the Meeting for
Sufferings of Indiana Yearly Meeting, dated in the 6 mo.
last to hand, copies from our last Meeting, were again read — The
former communications, embracing sundry Minutes of those Meetings
on subjects connected with the existing state of Society within
their limits, forwarded to us for our information, and

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Ph.

London

acceptable to us, - and it not appearing necessary that
any thing further respecting them should be done at this time,
the Clerk is directed to place them on file, and to forward Copies
of this Minute to those Meetings respectively —

The following Epistle from our Brethren of the Meeting
for Sufferings of the Yearly Meeting of London, held in the 4th
of 9th month last was received and read at this time, to our edi-
fication & comfort —

To the Meeting for Sufferings for New England.

Dear Friends

We duly received your affectionate & brotherly
Epistle of the second month last, and under the feeling of that
Christian Love which induced you to address us, would no longer
delay to reply to it —

The important subject to which it refers was alluded to
in the Epistle from the Yearly Meeting in Ohio and that
communication, and this brought under the notice of our last
Yearly Meeting; and as a Committee subordinate to that Body,
said acting with limited and delegated powers, we thought
it right to lay your Epistle before the said Meeting: by this
several Meeting, it became well informed of the proceedings in
your Country in regard to a General Conference — The measure
obtained its fullest consideration; which resulted in a manner
satisfactory to Friends in the adoption of the following Minute,
a Copy of which has been forwarded to the Friends who were to
meet in the 7th mo. last, and to the several Yearly Meetings on
your Continent. It is evident the Meeting did not at its present
to take any steps beyond that which has been thus concluded
upon —

"The very important subject of the appointment of Commit-
tees from the several Yearly Meetings on the American Conti-
nent, to meet at Philadelphia on the last second day in the 7th
mo. last, has been weighty before this Meeting, through
several Epistles and other communications from America,
which have been read during the course of it — This Meeting
has been favoured under a precious solemnity to unite
into the consideration of this important measure, and a free
brotherly expression of the views of many Friends has taken
place. Under the prevalence of much Love and sympathy it
is united that our dear brethren from the several Yearly Meetings
in America, who may be appointed at the time mentioned, may
be favoured in simple dependence on the great Head of the Church,
to proceed in harmony with the mind of Truth in their deliberations
and to publish only such as may issue in the wisdom and counsel of
God."

2 9th
1729
11 mo.

We do indeed acknowledge with you that it is cause for humble thankfulness and rejoicing that Infidelity has not manifested itself amongst you and us, in a way, that has been sorrowfully the case in some parts of the United States.

It is joy to those who through Faith and Obedience have been favoured to know a settled belief in the Truths of the Gospel, and who are seeking to hold fast that wherunto they have attained. These, as they walk watchfully before God, feel, that it will not do to trust to any former experience. They find that they are still encompassed with the infirmities of flesh and spirit, that the Enemy of all Good is still by his subtle stratagems seeking in various ways to beguile them; and that their only safety consists in daily prizing after an entire deliverance from the spirit of this World and in dependence from day to day upon the Great Head of the Church, for a renewal of strength to advocate & exhibit his righteous cause upon the Earth. ——

Extract from Meeting for Sufferings London

"May we all so abide in deep humility and watchfulness, as to feel it to be one of our greatest privileges to look unto the Lamb of God Jesus as our Saviour & Deliverer from the power and guilt of all sin. May we be animated with the humble confidence, that as we endeavour to trust in Him, and to walk in the ways of his commandment, we shall not only feel the efficacy of his grace whilst here, but eventually to know his blood to cleanse us from all sin, and that He will present us faultless before the presence of his Glory.

We daily find, and we doubt not it is so with you also, dear friends, that although exempt from some troubles, discouragements and trials, of various kinds, await us. This however is an additional call for humble reliance upon Him in whom we have believed: and may we be encouraged by the remembrance of the precious language of Holy Writ, that to them that love God all things work together for good to those who love God. —

For the Love of the Gospel,

We remain your Friends.

Signed in and on behalf of our Meeting for Sufferings
[illegible] 29th of 11th mo 1729

By George Stacey Clerk —

The Committee appointed by this Meeting on the 8th month 1824 on the Subject of the Boston Meeting House & Lot made the following Report — viz. —

Report of Committee

In conformity to our appointment we have sold the Old Meeting house Lot in Boston, situated in Congress Street, and obtained another in Milton Flat so called, near Federal Street — The bargain was made with Doctor Belcher, he giving the Lot in Milton Flat in exchange, and his Bond, secured by Mortgage on the former Lot for fourteen thousand dollars with interest from the first day of ninth month 1824 — since which day on the first day of ninth month last he has paid the Bond with interest, and the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting in his name, as Treasurer, the Bond and Mortgage was made payable, have discharged the Bond and Mortgage, by his Attorney Benj.R Nichols — After receiving the Money it was directed by the Committee that the Treasurer should pay Fifteen thousand five hundred dollars with its proportional part of Interest received, which by agreement was to be paid to Salem Monthly Meeting, should also be paid, and that Smith, Clay, Thomas Hadwen & Richard Anthony Jr. should receive the Certificate, was accordingly delivered to the Treasurer of Salem Monthly Meeting, namely — Abijah Smith Paul Baker, Daniel Estes & Mary Estes and Esther Southwick whereof, by their minute, a discharge in full from Salem Monthly Meeting — appeareth in Boston as pr. Benj.R Nichols Account is $ 172.34 cts including $71 dollars paid for Taxes — The other Expenses attending the sale and purchasing and getting the Deed signed by the Members of the Meeting for Sufferings at their homes, together with sending a person to Boston to receive the money and close the concern there, has amounted to about $25 — The exact sum cannot be ascertained, as the Friend who has the minutes of those expenses is not present, it will not however vary much from that sum. The sum then received, for principal & Interest up to the first day of 11th month last being $14910 dollars & $4224 cts being paid out of it, as included in the several Items before mentioned, there is now in the Treasurers hands $10185 cts which he has deposited in the Providence Bank in Providence, and which stands as belonging to the Yearly Meeting of New England

The Committee are contemplating the building a House in Boston, the ensuing Season, on the Lot which has been obtained, but have not as yet prepared a Draft or Estimate for the same to be laid before the Meeting for Sufferings, and they intend to previous to commencing the work

on behalf of the Committee

Wm Hoag

P 98
1829
1 mo.

which being considered, is satisfactory to us, and the Committee are continued to accomplish the further objects of their appointment and report to this Meeting their progress at such time as may require — The Treasurer is authorized to loan at four per Cent the amount now standing to the credit of the Yearly Meeting as by the report of the Committee, taking care that the whole or any part thereof shall be paid to the Committee whenever called for by them for the purpose of building —

Request to loan

A request being made by James Scott, through a Member of this Meeting, for some of the Writings of his father deposited in the Yearly Meetings Chest: We appoint Thomas Anthony, Stephen Gould, Matthew Purinton, Moses Brown & Rowland Green to consider the subject, examine said Writings, and report to this Meeting in the second month next —

1831
2 mo.

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence the 1st of 2nd mo. 1831 —

Present 21 members —

The [illegible] being read from Lisbon in relation to [illegible] for this Time —

[illegible] the request of James Scott to [illegible] Meeting of his father made the following report

Agreeably to appointment we have examined the [illegible] of the Original Manuscript of Job Scott's Journal now remaining in the Yearly Meeting Chest, with a view to the propriety of giving them up to his son James according to his request and we think no disadvantage will result from complying with that request — Retaining a Copy in the Yearly Meeting Chest — Which is submitted to this Meeting —"

Moses Brown
Rowland Green
Thomas Anthony
Matthew Purinton
Stephen Gould —"

which being considered is accepted — and Moses Brown Rowland Green & Thomas Anthony are appointed a Committee to [illegible] delivery of the Manuscript referred to, retaining a Correct Copy, and report to this Meeting when accomplished —

1822

The subject respecting the present situation and circumstances of the Indian Tribes resident in the southern parts of the United States being further introduced to our consideration, and the following minute having been made at this meeting, viz.

[illegible] on the same subject referred and the Committee appointed in the 12th instant, to prepare an Essay and present to this meeting a Memorial to the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States in behalf of those much injured People the Cherokees, Creeks, Choctaws, Chickasaws, Seminoles and other Indians, and report to this meeting

The Committee appointed to prepare an Essay to be presented at this meeting on the subject of the Indians

Dear Friends

Your Epistle dated 7th of 2nd month last was read in this meeting [illegible] and truly acceptable to us.

This meeting has been sensibly affected with a consideration of the circumstances of the Indians residing within the limits of some parts of the United States, and of the injustice that has been practised, to a great degree, from time to time, towards them, in many instances, by the encroachments of the white people, which have long taken place on their possessions, and which have been attended with many painful consequences to them.

This meeting has also been informed that the Yearly Meeting of Philadelphia, at its last sitting, appointed a committee to prepare an Essay to be presented at this meeting on the subject of the Indians, and that the said Committee have performed the service assigned

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1830
2mo

The Subject of making provision for the accommodation of the ensuing Quarterly Meeting being introduced, we appoint, Jonathan Mason, Jonathan Wheeler, Stephen Gould, Jonathan Davis, Nicholas Brayton, Cornelius Haviland, Henry Hoyt, Daniel Johnson & John Hilliard to take the subject into consideration, and report to the adjournment of this Meeting, what arrangements in their judgment are necessary to be made in regard to it ——

Adjourned to meet at Providence on third day the 16th instant at 10 o'clock in the morning ——

On a Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence by adjournment 11th mo 2 mo 1830 —— present 13 Members ——

The time of this sitting has been occupied in the consideration of several important subjects, and the further consideration of which is referred to an adjournment of this Meeting ——

Adjourned to the 3 hour this afternoon ——

Afternoon met by adjournment ——

present the same members as in the morning ——

The Committee appointed to prepare a Memorial to Congress on behalf of the Indians presented a Essay, which being read and the Clerk is directed to sign the same on behalf of this Meeting, and William Almy, Jonathan Mason & Stephen Gould are appointed a committee to have the same printed in pamphlet form by making such verbal alterations as may be necessary to its correctness and transmit Copies of it to the Senate and House of Representatives in Congress assembled through such channel as they may deem proper ——

The Clerk of this Meeting of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled. The Memorial of the Representatives of the Yearly Meetings of Friends for New England for and on behalf of said Yearly Meetings

respectfully sheweth

That believing the right of all and every portion of the citizens of our country, to petition their Rulers upon every subject of interest to them will be fully recognized by Congress; this Yearly Meeting hereby interested in a subject which for several years incidentally under diverse

in one branch of your Body; your Memorialists are emboldened by a sense of their Duty, & lay before you some views relating to it, which they, with many other of their fellow Citizens entertain - as most important consideration and future prospects of some of the aboriginal inhabitants of this Country ——

When we first settled where we are, they were in possession. they gave them in exchange for their property & improvements such things as they prized and immediately [illegible] Principles of Justice & their Citizens that the great and immediate Principles of Justice were fully recognized by them in attaining the object of their wishes by fair purchase of the Indians to obtain a cession of such parts of the Country as they were willing to dispose of ——

And your Memorialists, deem it right to acknowledge, as they also do the errors of our Fathers, lieing in a benighted age, the circumstance of their being willing to obtain possessions of the land without the consent of the original owners, nor without making them a compensation for their grant, even so far as shows that they were actuated by a high sense of national honor. And as your Memorialists believe true National Greatness is in no way so fully evinced as by [illegible] in a National capacity, to those immutable principles of right, so it is "Righteousness exalteth a Nation," they are therefore earnestly desirous, that the sins of Injustice to the aboriginal inhabitants of this Country & Government, powerful People, may never be justly applicable to our

It is not our design, to connect with the subject, upon which we are concerned to address the Government, any considerations, which may be construed to bear upon, or affect any questions of party, or political interests: but representing, as we do a religious Society to whom the best interests of this portion of the inhabitants of our Country have always been dear: your Memorialists would respectfully call the attention of Congress to the Treaties which our Government, has so repeatedly made with the Indians within the limits of Georgia and the neighboring States, and earnestly solicit that these solemn pledges may be inviolably kept and fully redeemed ——

It appears to your Memorialists, that our Nation; though bound in all occasions to be just, is, in a very particular manner so upon, in this instance, namely to maintain their faith with these people, from the circumstance that, they are now strong, but once were weak, that they were once the masters of the soil we inhabit, and possessed sufficient power to maintain their possessions: and, that when our Fathers sought an asylum in this Land, were a feeble and scattered band and ought have been driven away — Yet notwithstanding these circumstances, this high minded people, natives of the Wilderness as they were, in many

many instances received them with open arms, and admin-
-istered to them the charities of brothers —

Your Memorialists cannot but anticipate, that if laws
foreign to the habits, and subversive to the feelings of the Indian
be allowed to be extended over them, the ultimate effect must be
to render their situation so uncomfortable as to drive them from
their habitations, and from the inheritance of their fathers, again
into the wilderness, and again into those habits of uncivilized life
from which they seem now to be in progress of emerging —

Your Memorialists cannot but view, with fearful feelings,
the prospect of such an effect — they cannot feel indifferent,
not only, as to the injury
to those who would in this event, be the injured
and personal sufferers, nor yet on account of those, who would be
the cause of their sufferings —

Your Memorialists are encouraged to hope, that if these inter-
-esting nations are permitted to remain in their present location,
with their just rights & privileges attached to them, that the
influence of the customs and manners of civilized life, with
which they are immediately or more remotely surrounded,
and above all, the benign influence of our Holy Religion,
will prepare them for a participation in the rights and duties
of citizenship in common with other civilized people — And as
it is necessary, in order to excite a devout aspiration in every human
breast for the consummation of this hope, to draw a parallel between
the moral and intellectual character of the Savage, and the
knowledge necessary to satisfy their natural appetites, and the
cheerful & enlightened civilized citizen, enjoying the facilities
necessary to the high cultivation of his intellect —

Your Memorialists are particularly solicitous, that not only
a just and upright, but a liberal and conciliatory feeling, may
mark the measures of the National Legislature in every case,
which may occur, between them and these aboriginal Inhabit-
-ants, who are from necessity, and in justice, entitled to the paternal
care of the Government — Under the considerations your
Memorialists, would respectfully express their earnest desire,
that every step, we may take, or measure, we adopt
in the various treaties of the Government hereafter made with
the Cherokee and other neighboring Indian Nations, that
that the protection of the Government, which in those Treaties
is so explicitly and repeatedly pledged, shall remain and be
continued over them, without abatement or interruption, that
in the keeping of those, who are solemnly pledged, as guar-

2d mo from the Institution of our Country, and the impact of 1808 —
ABC — ants of us, in this conspicuous instance, again be verified, that
Justice and good faith are characteristicks of the Government
of the United States —

Upon Memorials will be read & addressed & forwarded
declaring that, if he hath made of our blood all nations of
them that dwell upon the Earth and abominable the hands
of their habitations, will be graciously pleased to incline the minds
of all, whom may be called upon to act upon this Subject, with
Wisdom and with a disposition to conform to this Solemn injunc-
tion, from the highest authority "Whatsoever ye would that
men should do unto you, do ye even so to them" —

Signed by direction and on behalf of a Meeting of the Repre
-sentatives aforesaid held in Providence the 4th of 2d mo 1808 —

John Osborn Clk for the time

The Committee to take into consideration the Subject of
making provision for the accommodation of the approaching
Yearly Meeting Report as follows Viz. The Committee
on the subject of making provision for the approaching
Yearly Meeting having taken a view thereof, are of opinion, that as
much expense should be incurred as the nature of the case
will admit of, they therefore recommend, that such Friends as
are of ability, who attend the Yearly Meeting, should bear
their own expenses — but that those who may not consider
themselves able so to do, of the resident North of Acoaxet River,
Boston running West to Connecticut River, be at liberty
to avail themselves of such provisions as may be made
by this Meeting — And herein are included Friends of the
Island of Rhode Island and Representatives from all the
Quarterly Meetings —

Providence 2d mo 4th 1808 —

Walter Allen
Rowland Hazard
Nicholas Brown
Jonathan Davis
Stephen Gould

Which being considered is accepted and the Clerk directed
to transmit copies thereof with extracts from this minute to
the Quarterly Meetings of Rhode Island, Smithfield and
Sandwich —

The Committee appointed to deliver to James Arnold
the writings of his Father and obtain a Copy, Report, that they
have examined the writings in the hand writing of Stephen
in the Yearly Meeting Chest, and from the difficulty of deci-
-phering them, think it would be best to deliver them to
his son James without obtaining a Copy — Which report
is accepted and they directed so to deliver them —

A concern being revived in this meeting that all
the families of Friends may be in the profession of
the Holy Scriptures, it is recommended to our

Quarterly

Quarterly and Monthly Meetings, to make the necessary enquiry throughout their respective meetings, whether any deficiencies exist in their records, and report to this Meeting the result of such enquiry, that steps may be taken to supply such families as are deficient, if any such may be found. — And the Clerk is directed to furnish each Quarterly Meeting with a Copy of this minute. —

Silas Swain, Walter Alsop, Thomas Hazard, William Almy, Matthew Barnaby & Rowland Greene are appointed a Committee, to make enquiry as to the last mentioned to be pursued by this Meeting, to revise Monthly Meetings the legal title and possession to their Meeting Houses, Lots of Land and other property, and report to this Meeting when ready. —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at East Greenwich 5th of 5th mo. 1830 — Present fifteen Members —

The Clerk informs this Meeting, that he has forwarded to the several Quarterly Meetings, Extracts from the Minutes of our last Meeting, as directed. —

The Committee appointed to deliver the Manuscript Writings of Job Scott to his son James, inform, that they have delivered them, & taken his receipt therefor. —

The Committee appointed to transcribe & forward the Memorial of this Meeting, to the Congress of the United States, respecting the Cherokees, and some other of the Indian Nations, report, That they had forwarded two Copies, the one directed to the Senate was addressed to Daniel Webster, a Senator from Massachusetts, and that to the House of Representatives, was addressed to Tristam Burges, a Representative from the State of Rhode Island, who have severally informed the Committee, that they were presented to the different Branches of the General Government who directed it to be printed. —

The Subject of making some arrangement for the accommodation of our ensuing Yearly Meeting claiming the attention of this Meeting— Thomas Howland Stephen Gould, Nicholas Longston, Matthew Purinton & William Jenkins are appointed a Committee to make the necessary provision;— And Rhode Island Monthly Meeting is requested to lend its aid, as heretofore, to accomplish this Object— And the Committee is authorized to call on the Yearly Meetings Treasurer for two hundred dollars, to be applied to that Purpose

[illegible] Meeting for Sufferings held at [illegible] Present 29 members

The Committee who have the Charge of building a Meeting House in Boston, inform, that, altho they have not proceeded to build said House; owing to a want of health in some of the Committee, and from some other causes that have intervened, yet, they have paid attention to the Subject, and have now in Prospect the commencement of the work in a short time, and that the money to be appropriated to that purpose remains at rest to the call of the Committee—

A Memorial of Rhode Island Monthly concerning our beloved, deceased Friend David Buffum was presented to this Meeting by Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting, which has been read, and after deliberately considering the Subject, it is thought best to refer the further examination to a Committee for which purpose. Abraham Shearman Jr. Benja Freeborn, William Almy, Stephen Gould & Thomas Howland were appointed, and requested to report to the adjournment of this Meeting—

Adjourned to the close of the afternoon sitting of the Yearly Meeting on second day next, the 14th instant—

3 Mo 1830 6 mo

Fourth. th day met agreeably to adjournment —
Present 28 members —

The Committee appointed for the purpose of further examining the Memorials concerning our deceased Friend David Buffum, reported a proposition, to make some additions and a few alterations in the Memorials as it is now presented. — After considering the proposition, and the alterations and additions it is concluded to refer the subject to a future sitting of this Meeting —

The Clerk is directed to lay the Records of this Meeting before the Yearly Meeting now sitting —

Adjourned to the Close of the Yearly Meeting

Thos. Howland Clk

Meetg for Sufferings

6 mo 1830

Present 31 members —

Information by a Minute received from the Yearly Meeting that it was adjourned — Moses Brown, William Hy

Howland Green
Thos. Howland
Benj. Gifford
Hezekiah Davis
James Tucker
Barstow Peckham
Edward Cobb
Abner Kneeland Jr
Stephen Jones
Isaac Bisbee
Estes Newhall
Cornelius Howland
Peleg Allen
Daniel Howland

Francis Baker
William Cobb
Joshua Hadley
Thos Anthony
John Warren
Matthew Pearson
Joshua Perkins
George Mitchell
John Miller
John Parsons
John Brown
Stephen Chase
Daniel Johnson
James N Fry
Benjamin Fry
Nicholas Congdon
John Osborn

John R Davis
Wm Perkins
Jonathan Dennis
Stephen Gould
David Buffum
Wilm Reed
Abijah Chase
Oliver Chase
Caleb Nichols
Samuel F Hussey
David Rodman
Peter Peck
Wm Reynolds
Prince Gardner
Moses Farnum
Moses Starkey
Joseph Mosely

"Yearly Meeting 6 mo 1830 — 307 —

It is our Conclusion that eight thousand Copies of the Testimony of the Society of Friends be printed on account of this Yearly Meeting, for circulation among Friends and others — and the Clerk is directed to give this information to the Meeting for Sufferings in Philadelphia; and also to suggest to Friends there that a Meeting to consider of the propriety of its being Stereotyped, in order that all Editions of it that are published, may be uniformly and correctly printed; and the further care of the Subject, and the distribution of the Work when received is referred to our Meeting for Sufferings — They taking care that the several Quarterly Meetings be supplied with a sufficient number to furnish each Family of Friends within their limits with a Copy — —

From the Minutes — Wm Shearman Jr. Clerk — "

Thos. Howland is appointed Clerk — — —

It is concluded that this Meeting be held for the ensuing Year as follows — viz — At Providence on the Seventh day after the first fifth day in the 3d and eleventh months at the 9th hour in the morning, and at Providence again in the Second month on the day of holding Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting at that Place, to meet at the third hour in the afternoon — at East Greenwich in the fifth month on the day of holding the Select Quarterly Meeting at that Place, and at Portsmouth, Rhode Island on the day of holding the Select Yearly Meeting, to meet at the third hour in the afternoon at each of the last mentioned Places — —

times of holding Meeting for Sufferings

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1830
8 mo.

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence 7th of 8th mo. 1830.

Present 18 members.

The Subject of the preceding Extract, relative to "Testimony of the Society" coming under the consideration of this Meeting, and no arrangement appearing necessary to be made at the present time, as none of them have been received, the Subject is referred to our next Meeting.

concerning Testimony of Society &c.

The Clerk is directed to request the Meeting for Sufferings in Philadelphia to forward to this Meeting 2500 Copies of said Testimony as soon as may be convenient to do so — and also to forward a set of Stereotype Plates for printing more Copies of said Testimony as circumstances may render proper — and on receiving them, our Treasurer is directed to pay for both.

Testimony concerning D. Buffum

The Testimony of Rhode Island Monthly Meeting concerning our beloved Friend David Buffum deceased, coming again under the consideration of this Meeting, it is concluded to lay the same before our next Yearly Meeting without alteration or addition.

The Committee appointed to make Provision for the accommodation of our last Yearly Meeting, Produced an Act amounting to $271 18/100 — Two hundred dollars having been advanced to the Committee the balance of $271.18 cents the Yearly Meetings Treasurer is requested to pay to Stephen Gould.

London Epistle

The London General Epistle was received and read at this time — Stephen Gould is appointed to have 2000 Copies of it printed and distributed to the several Quarterly and Monthly Meetings.

Meeting House Boston

The Committee appointed to build a Meeting House in Boston, on the Lot of Land belonging to the Yearly Meeting, inform, that they have entered into Contract with two Friends, members of Salem Mo. Mty, for the erection of such a Building on the Premises, to be accomplished in the course of the present Season

230
11 mo

304

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence 4th of 11th month 1783 —

Present 15 members —

The Clerk being absent, John Ostorn is appointed Clerk for the time —

Stephen Gould informs this Meeting that he has procured the printing of two thousand copies of London General Epistle, and has distributed nearly all of them as directed, the expense of which £ which the Yearly Meeting Treasurer is requested to pay to him —

Bill for printing &c —

The Committee to whom was referred in the 2mo last the subject of considering the best mode to be pursued by this Meeting to secure to Monthly Meetings the legal Title & possession to their meeting Houses, Lots of Lands and other property, Reported, that they had given attention to the subject, and as far as they had matured the case, were of the judgment that an application be made to the Legislature of the State of Rhode Island to clothe the Trustees of the respective Monthly Meetings with corporate power so far as to hold the property of the several Quarterly Monthly and Preparative Meetings which being accordable to this Meeting, Moses Brown, Walter Allen, Thos Howland, William Almy, Matthew Painter, Rowland Greene; William Jenkins, David Buffum, John Farnum, John Ostorn are appointed to prepare a suitable Bill, embracing the aforegoing objects and a Petition to the Legislature requesting the passage of such an Act, and report the same to the adjournment of this Meeting — —

Committee prepare act & petition

Adjourned to meet at Providence at three of the Clock P.M. on the 4th day of the first mo next

3 Mo
1831
4th mo — At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Race
street appointed by a Quarterly Meeting the 4th of 1st mo 1831 —

Present 17 members —

The Committee to prepare an Essay of Petition
to the General Assembly of this State, and also an Essay
of a Bill to Incorporate the Trustees of the Meetings in
this State, presented said Essays, which so far meeting the
approbation of this Meeting, as it directed them to
be laid before the Legislature, which will be its
sitting in the ensuing week — and Daniel Howland
William Reynolds, William Jenkins, John Jansen,
William Evans and Thos. Howland are appointed to
present the same, and the Clerk is directed to sign
the Petition on behalf of this Meeting

A Bill, from John Paul, Treasurer of Philadelphia
Yearly Meeting, was received amounting to $135.$\frac{26}{100}$
being the expenses accruing from printing three thousand
of the Testimonies of the Society, and a set of Stereotype
plates, for printing more of said Testimonies, which have
been received — And Stephen Gould is requested to call
on the Yearly Meetings Treasurer for the amount, and
forward the same to John Paul as Treasurer of
Philadelphia Yearly Meeting — —

At a Meeting of Sufferings held at Providence the 2d of 2mo 1834 —

Present 14 Members —

The Clerk being absent William Jenkins is appointed to that service for this time —

The Committee appointed at our last Meeting to present the Petition & Bill to authorize Persons to hold Property for Quarterly, Monthly & Preparative Meetings Report, that they attended to their appointment and presented the same to the Legislature, who readily passed the Bill without any material alteration —

The Clerk is requested to obtain a Certificate thereof & the Act, and present to this Meeting for Record —

Stephen Gould informs that he has remitted to Esther Paul Treasurer of Phila Yearly Meeting as requested at our last Meeting —

Petition to Legislature

To the General Assembly of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations —

The Representatives of the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England Respectfully sheweth That there are in this State diverse Meetings, in part constituting said Yearly Meeting, such as Quarterly, Monthly and Preparative Meetings, which are recognized as existing but which are not included in the Provisions of the Act of Incorporation, which the General Assembly were pleased to grant to said Yearly Meeting at their Session held at South Kingstown in the 10mo 1823. which Particular Meetings agreeably to the Usages of the Society of Friends, hold Property distinct from that which is held by the said Yearly Meeting, consisting of Meeting Houses and Lots of Land on which they stand with other Property both real & personal, which is held by

312
1838
2mo.
Petition

by the said Quarterly, Monthly and Preparative Meetings for their benefit and aid by them for the support of the poor the education of children and other incidental & those Meetings. And whereas the Society by which said Meetings are held their Property is vested in and dependent, and has in some instances been attended with inconvenience and loss — Your Petitioners respectfully submit, that the General Assembly, would be pleased to take their case into consideration, and authorise said Meetings or the Officers whom they shall appoint, to hold such property as they are now in the possession of, or of which they shall hereafter become possessed; limited to such an amount as the General Assembly may judge reasonable — Or to provide for them in the premises, in such other way as the General Assembly in their wisdom, may deem most expedient & proper —

Your Petitioners would take the liberty further to represent, that the Legislature of Massachusetts, in making provision by Law for incorporated religious Societies in that State to hold their Property, did at their Session in the year 18 make the Overseers in each monthly Meeting a body Corporate in Law — And by virtue of that Act, our Society were enabled to recover the Property in the City of Boston, which by the maladministration of Trustees had been withheld from them —

Your petitioners in soliciting the favor asked for in this petition, in behalf of the Society of Friends, do it with feelings of duty & respect, which they owe to a Legislative Body, that have always been ready to lend their attention to the petitions of the Society, and in many instances to grant their requests — And with these feelings they ask liberty to present a Bill —

Signed

1731
2 mo

Law
or
Act
yet

, signed in and on behalf of Meeting for Sufferings, being the Representatives of the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England, during the recess of said Meeting held at Providence 4th of 1st mo. 1731 —

Thos Howland Clk

State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations — An Act to Incorporate the Overseers of the Monthly Meetings of the Society of Friends in this State —

Section 1st Be it enacted by the General Assembly and by the authority thereof it is enacted — That the Overseers of each respective Monthly Meeting of the Society of Friends in this State, and their successors in that Office now, or hereafter appointed in the usual way and manner in which said Monthly Meetings respectively appoints the Overseers, be, and the same are hereby created bodies politic and corporate, with perpetual succession; and as such may sue and be sued, and may have and receive the other Powers incidents to Corporate Bodies — —

Sec 2d And be it further enacted, That said Corporations are hereby authorised and empowered to take, hold, manage, convey and dispose of, all the property real & personal, which now belongs to, or may hereafter belong to and become the Property of any Quarterly, Monthly or Preparative meetings of Friends in this State, in Trust, for the Special benefit of such Meeting or meetings for whose use & benefit such property has been, or may be purchased or given; and shall at all times be responsible in Law and Equity for the faithful execution of their respective trusts — And shall manage & dispose of said Trust Property, under the direction and direction of such Meeting for whose use and benefit such property was purchased or given — said Quarterly Monthly and Preparative Meetings forming Subordinate parts of the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England —

Sec 3 And be it further enacted, That the amount of Property which they may hold by virtue of this Act, shall not exceed for each Quarterly meeting

and

3 4 4
1834
2d Mo

and for each Monthly Meeting, the sum of twenty-five
dollars as a clear at East; and for each Preparative
meeting, shall not exceed the sum of five hundred
dollars at East —

Sec. 4th And be it further enacted, That this Act shall
be subject to all future Acts of the General
Assembly, whether in amendment or repeal thereof,
or in any wise affecting the same —

True Copy — Witness
Henry Bowen Secy

5 mo

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at East
Greenwich 4th of 5th mo. 1834 —
Present 16 members

To appoint William Jenkins, Benjamin Bacon
and Thomas Hazard to take into consideration
what may be the best way for Monthly and other
Meetings to change the present manner of holding the
property by trustees, to that of holding it by virtue
of the agreeing Act of Incorporation, and report to
our next Meeting —

Whereas we have not had accounts from all our
Quarterly Meetings respecting deficiencies in regard
to the Scriptures, it is concluded best to procure
two hundred Copies of the Bible to supply such
deficiencies as may appear — and Stephen Gould
and William Jenkins are appointed to procure the
above number and forward to such Quarterly Meet-
ings deficiencies have been reported, and the further

1831
5mo

consideration of the subject is referred to our next
Meeting —

On the subject of making provision for the accommodation of our ensuing Yearly Meeting we appoint Stephen Gould, Matthew Purinton, Nicholas Gould & Thomas Hicks to make the necessary arrangements and said Committee are authorised to call on the Yearly Meeting's Treasurer for two hundred and fifty dollars to be applied to that purpose — and Rhode Island Monthly Meeting is requested to lend their assistance as heretofore — The provision to be made agreeable to the regulation of last Year —

Provision M.J

Printing Minutes

This Meeting concludes to have three thousand copies more &c. "Testimonies of Friends" printed, & William Jenkins, Stephen Gould & Matthew Purinton are appointed to have that number struck off as soon as conveniently may be, and report to our next meeting

At a Meting for Sufferings held at Portsmouth on Rhode Island 11th of 6th month 1831 —

Present 31 members —

Report of Com. respecting building Meeting House in Boston

The Committee appointed to build a Meeting House in the City of Boston made the following Report which is accepted viz —

The Committee having charge of the building of the Meting House in Boston, report — That early in the 7th month last year, three of the Committee contracted with Philip Shaw and David Ruffum of Salem, to build the house on the lot owned by the Yearly Meting, in Milton Place for the sum of Seven Thousand Six Hundred Dollars. The building is now completed — The dimensions of said house is 60 feet by 40 feet front, with a basement story six feet above the level of the ground, the building is well lighted by windows on both sides and in front and rear, The sides and rear of the building are of brick, on a solid foundation of blocks of granite. The front is of

Hammond Quincy granite and is a neat and substantial piece of work — The entrance to the Muting Room is in the centre of the front through a porch or lobby, wide enough to admit of stairs on both sides of the front door, ascending to the Youths Gallery, which extends on either side and across the front of the building — On the main floor is an alley of suitable width in the centre, from the porch to the two gallery seats which extend across the rear, facing the front entrance; below these on the floor is another seat of the same length, facing the same way; all the other seats, save those above described, and from the centre of the house to the front entrance are raised a sufficient height to accommodate those who may occupy them — In addition to the alley in the centre there is a narrow one on both sides of the house, and leading to the front door, wide enough for one person to pass — The workmanship, the timber and the other materials used are satisfactory to the Committee — The windows on the sides and in the rear have shut iron out side shutters, and those in front have out side wood blinds — The basement story which is about seven feet in height is also finished but not seated; and all the wood work in the floor and the muting room above, including the seats is suitably painted — The whole lot is enclosed — The rear and south side with a solid brick wall, six feet in height, and on a good stone foundation and capped with hammered granite well secured — The north side and front on Milton Place with a wrought Iron fence of one inch bar, of the height of the enclosing wall, on a good foundation below the

surface of the ground, and a hammered granite base about the surface on which the Iron fence is built and erected — There are two gates — The one in the centre opening upon the front flight of steps, which are of granite, with Iron side rails — the other a smaller one about, on a line with the South side of the building, on which side near the front, is a door opening into the basement story — The Lot is of granite — The roof is covered with slate and has copper ice troughs and copper water Conductors from them — There is a chimney in the rear end and side walk in front — The cost of the enclosing wall and Iron fence (which are within the limits of the Lot) and the accomodations in the yard in the rear of the lot, together with the necessary drains from the water Conductors and from under the basement story, and the expenses of draft of the building, and the working Plans, Surveying the lot, and the actual expenses of the Committee on their several visits to Boston &c — amounts to $ 1.723. 14/100 Dollars, which added to the Sum paid to the Contractors for building, say $. 7.600 — makes in the aggregate Nine Thousand Three Hundred & twenty three dollars and 14 cents Say $ 9.323. 14/100 — which amount has been received of William Abbey Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting and paid for the house fence &c — agreeably to the account herewith presented

Signed on behalf of the Committee

Thos Howland

Mr Jenkins —

N. B. There remains one item of expense not included in the above account, which will probably not vary much from One hundred Dollars, which will leave in the hands of the Yearly Muting's Treasurer about One Thousand five hundred Dollars of the avails of the Sale of the old Muting House and Lot in Boston —

Treasurer's Report

It appears also, by the Treasurers report and account now recived, that there remains in the hands of the Treasurer the sum of $1.610\frac{62}{100}$ of the avails, arising from the Sale of the old Muting House and lot, in the City of Boston —

The Committee appointed at our last muting to propose to this Muting a proper mode of transferring property belonging to Quarterly, monthly and Preparative Mutings, in the State of Rhode Island from the present Trustees, to overseers of Monthly Mutings, not being ready to report, the subject is referred to our next Muting —

The Comtee on Trust not ready to Report

The Subject of supplying Friends with the Holy
Supplying Friends with Bibles — ing again under consideration, and the
Committee appointed at our last meeting informing, that
they had procured two hundred Copies as directed it is
concluded that Provided this member should not be suffici
-ent to supply all the deficiencies among Friends in this
Yearly Meeting, that said Committee inform this Meeting
at a future Sitting, that a further supply may be furnished

Testimonies — The Committee appointed to have three thousand
Printed — Copies of the "Testimony of Friends" printed, Report, That the
work is accomplished and that they are now ready for
distribution —

The Clerk is directed to lay the proceedings of this
Meeting, for the last Year, before the Yearly Meeting —
Adjourned to the close of the Yearly Meeting

Thos. Howland Clerk —

1831
6m°
17—

(The Meeting for Sufferings held at the close of the Yearly Meeting agreeably to adjournment this 7th day of the 6th mo. 1831— Present 28 members—

The Yearly Meeting having appointed the following Friends to constitute a Meeting for Sufferings for the ensuing year. Viz— Moses Brown, Wm Almy, Barzillai Greene Thos Hazard, Benja Tucker, Obadiah Davis, James Tucker Rowland Rathbun, Edward Cobb, Wm Chapman Jr. Nathan Jones, Isaac Bogart, Esek Nuchall, Caleb Horton Walter Allen, Daniel Hazard, Frances Taber, Wm Cobb Joshua Reader, Rd Anthony John Thorn, Matthew Perinton, Joshua Jenkins, George Mitchell, John Farnum John Brown, Nathan Chase, Daniel Thurber, James Fry, Nicholas Congdon, John Osborn, Oliver Chase, Benjamin Fry, Wm Jenkins, Jonathan Dennis, Stephen Gould, David Buffum, Wm Hazard, Elijah Chase, Caleb Nicholl, Samuel A Fleming, Perez Peck, Wm Reynolds Prince Gardner, Moses Farnum, Moses Hussey, Joseph Metcalf, Andrew Nichols, Ebenezer Peck.

Thomas Rowland is appointed Clerk for the ensuing Year— It is concluded that our Stated Meetings be held as last Year, viz, at Providence on the 5th and 11th months on 1st day after the first fifth day in each of those months, at the ninth hour in the morning and at the same hour in the second month at the third hour in the afternoon, on the day of holding Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting, at East Greenwich on the day of holding the Select Quarterly Meeting at that place at the third hour in the afternoon and at Portsmouth, Rh de Island, at the third hour in the afternoon on the day of holding a Select Quarterly Meeting there in—

The following Extract was received—

Minute 17 6m

At the Yearly Meeting held in the 6th mo 1831—

We are informed thro' the medium of the Records of the Meeting for Sufferings that, that Meeting has

in

322
1734
Boss.

Boston
Mg House

in pursuance of the authority to me before given to it, caused a Meeting House to be erected in this meetings Lot of Land fronting on Milton Place in Boston ...

The Care of the House has creates, & the proper disposition, & investment of the balance remaining in the hands of the treasurer Arising from the proceeds of the old Meeting House & Lot, are amounting to about fifteen hundred dollars] is committed to the Meeting for Sufferings ...

From the Minutes of said Meeting

Abm Shearman Clk —

The Subject claimed the attention of this Meeting at this time so far as to come to the conclusion, that Salem Monthly Meeting within whose limits the House is located, is requested to take charge of the House and Premises, exercising such care in regard to its use, as will in their judgment be consistent with the good Order and best interests of the Society — and Abm Shearman Clk Silvⁿ Gaule, Wm Watkins, Wm Mary Framed Sales, John Bolton, John Lamm, & Thomas Hoadley are appointed a Committee to which Salem Monthly Meeting may apply for advice or assistance as circumstances at any time hereafter may point out or require —

8mo

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence the 8th of 8th mo 1734.

Present 20 members —

3mo 6th

It is concluded that the Balance remaining in the hands of the Yearly Meetings Treasurer of the proceeds of the Sale of the old Meeting House & Lot in Boston [being about $150 fifteen hundred dollars] be put at Interest, or Trusted in some other safe manner that it may be producing an income — and the Building Comtee are directed to have the House Insured, and call on the Treasurer for the necessary Expense — The Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting to hold the Sum that shall finally remain, after paying the said remaining Expenses, and allow the common rate of Interest, which Proposition is agreeable to this Meeting and he is allowed to hold the same, subject to the future directions of this Meeting.

The Committee appointed to make provision for our last Yearly Meeting, Presented an Account of Expenses, amounting to $644 47/100 which is allowed, and the balance due said Comtee being $394 47/100 the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting is required to pay to Stephen Gould & David Buffum —

Read the following viz — "The Subject of the printing of the Minutes of this Meeting was referred to the consideration of the Meeting for Sufferings" —

From the Minutes of the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England held in the 6th mo 1731 —

Attest Thurman Jr Clk —

The Subject claimed the deliberate consideration of this Meeting & resulted in referring the Subject for further consideration to our next Meeting

The General Printed Epistle from the Yearly Meeting of Friends held in London in the 5th mo last, was received & read — and this Meeting concludes to have three thousand Copies reprinted & Stephen Gould & John Farnum are appointed to have that work done & report their proceedings to this Meeting at a future sitting.

1834
11 mo 5th

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence
5th of 11th mo 1834

Present 12 Members —

The subject referred from our last Meeting to this time, respecting
the printing of the Minutes of our Yearly Meeting, has received the
deliberate consideration of this Meeting, and it is concluded next to
refer the subject to our next Meeting —

The Committee appointed to have Three Thousand Copies
the London General Epistle of the present Year printed Reported that the
work has been accomplished, and the Epistles directed to the
several Meetings — and that the expense of Printing is $
which is allowed and the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting
is requested to pay the amount to said Committee —

1832

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence
1st of 2nd mo 1832 — Present 17 Members —

Clerk being absent, David Buffum is appointed Clerk
for the day —

The Subject of Printing the Minutes of the Yearly Meeting
having claimed the attention of this Meeting at different times, up
to the present time, it is the sense of this Meeting, that it will be
well to print the Minutes of said Meeting, to be communicated
to the Quarterly and Monthly Meetings, under the Superintendence
a Committee appointed by the Yearly Meeting —

1832 4 mo.

A communication from the Meeting for Sufferings of Indiana Yearly Meeting, was received and read at this time, whereupon we appoint Moses Brown, Rowland Greene, Benjamin Trecborn Jr. William Almy, Stephen Gould & William Jenkins to consider the subject, and if may appear to prepare and lay in reply & report it to our next Meeting —

Respecting Indiana

To the Meeting for Sufferings of New England Yearly Meeting

Dear Friends We were appointed by our Meeting for Sufferings, to transmit to you the annexed Minute of our Yearly Meeting, and open with you a correspondence on the subject therein contained — Our Meeting thought best the subject should claim the attention of the several Meetings for Sufferings in America, and hear from them before we framed any further — It is desired that you will communicate the result of your deliberations, on that important subject, to us, as early as practicable —

"Indiana Yearly Meeting of Friends held 10th mo. 7th 1831 —

The following Minute of the Committee on African affairs was forwarded and read in this Meeting, viz. "The subject of the abolition of Slavery in the United States, was revived at this sitting for consideration, and was after a time of solid deliberation directed to be laid before the Yearly Meeting — Taken from the Minutes, George Evans Clerk" — And this Meeting considering the great importance of the subject proposed, took it under weighty consideration, during which the spirits of many concerned friends were deeply exercised thereon and it appears to be, the united judgment of this Meeting, to recommend the subject to the Meeting for Sufferings — believing that the time has truly come, that we should petition the General Government of the United States, in behalf of the oppressed African Race. And this Meeting is desirous to unite with the Meetings for Sufferings of the other Yearly Meetings on this Continent, & to invite their cordial co-operation in this important measure —

Taken from the Minutes of the aforesaid Meeting

Elijah Coffin Clerk —

On behalf of the Meeting for Sufferings of Indiana Yearly Meeting of Friends, held this 10th, 11th mo. 11th 1831

George Carter, Wayne County, Ohio —
Thomas Evans, Fayette County, Ohio —

324
1832
5 mo.

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at East Greenwich 2 of 5th mo. 1832 — Present 14 members —

Report of Committee appointed to take into consideration the subject proposed by the Meeting for Sufferings of Indiana Yearly Meeting Report, That they have given their deliberate attention to the Proposition, and that may did not open to offer an Essay of unity to that Meeting at the present, and suggest the propriety of laying the Proposition before our approaching Yearly Meeting — which being agreeable to this Meeting, the Subject is so referred accordingly — and the Clerk of this Meeting is directed to inform the Correspondents of Indiana Meeting for Sufferings, the manner this Meeting has disposed of the Subject

Proceedings of Y. Meeting

The consideration of making provision for the accommodation of our approaching Yearly Meeting being brought into view appointed William Reynolds, David Buffum, Stephen Gould, Thomas Hazard, Nicholas Longden, Benjamin Freeborn, Matthew Purington, Cornelius Howland & Revel Peckham to make the necessary arrangements — They are authorized to call on the Treasurer of this Meeting for three Hundred dollars to be applied to that purpose — And Rhode Island Monthly Meeting is requested to lend its aid, as heretofore, to effect this Object — — — — — — — — — — — —

6 mo. At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Portsmouth Rhode Island 9th of 6 mo. 1832 —

Present 24 members —

The following Report was presented from the Committee appointed some time past — Which after deliberate consideration is accepted and the Committee released from their appointment —

To the

To the Meeting for Sufferings

Report of Committee on Memorials &c

We the Committee appointed to make careful inspection of the Testimonies which have been issued concerning deceased Friends within this Yearly Meeting with a view to their publication and for the more extensive circulation of suitable books explanatory of the doctrine and peculiar testimonies of our Society" Report— That we have paid attention to our appointment in the distribution of books, and have examined all the Testimonies and Memorials of deceased Friends that have been issued within this Yearly Meeting; but way did not open for the Committee unitedly to recommend the publication of them at the present time— on behalf of the Committee

Providence 8th mo 5th 1832

Moses Brown
Stephen Gould

The Meeting after having deliberated on several other subjects thought it best to refer them to a future sitting of this Meeting for further consideration— Adjourned to meet at Newport third day morning next 12th inst at 7 o clock —

Third day morning the 12th inst met according to adjournment— present 34 members—

Form of Deed of Release &c

The Committee appointed to prepare an Essay of a Form of Quit Claim Deed from the Trustees who now hold the property of Quarterly Monthly and Preparative Meetings in the State of Rhode Island to the trustees of Monthly Meetings in said State reported one which is accepted and the Clerk is directed to furnish each Monthly Meeting with a copy of said Form together with a copy of the Act incorporating trustees —

328.
1832
6 mo.

Final Report of Committee appointing Boston Mg House &c

The Committee appointed to build a Meeting House &c in the City of Boston made Report accompanied with an account of the Yearly Meetings Treasurer by which it appears that after the remaining 4 pennies for finishing the house &c and paying the premium for the Insurance of the Premises for Eight Thousand Dollars for Three years to come there remains in the hands of the Treasurer of the avails of the Sales of the old Meeting House and Lot the sum of Thirteen Hundred & Eighty Dollars & five cents together with interest for the past year amounting to $96. 63/100 which report is accepted, and this Meeting concludes it proper and best to have the Principle Say Thirteen hundred & Eighty Dollars invested in some safe and proper way to be held as a fund whose it may produce an Income which future Income or Interest together with the Interest already accrued should pass into the Treasury of the Yearly Meeting for its use Considering that the Yearly Meeting will be liable and willing to meet any contingent expenses that

may arise from holding Mutings in said house and payment of any expenses that shall or may arise from future Insurance of said premises, and any expenses that may arise from common and ordinary Repairs of said House ——

This Muting adjourns to the close of the Yearly Muting, and the Clerk is directed to lay the proceedings of this Muting for the past year before the Yearly Muting

This Minute Read & Ag.d

32. No 15

At the close of the Yearly Muting, met agreeably to adjournment.

Present 41 Members

It appears by a Minute from the Clerk of the Yearly Muting that the following Friends were agreed on to constitute a Meeting for suffering for the Ensuing Year Namely Moses Brown Wm Almy Richard Greene Thomas Hazard, Benjamin Freeborn Obadiah Davis, James Rhodes Rowland Rathbun Edward Cobb, Henry Sherman Jr, Stephen Jones, Esther Newhall, Cornelius Howland Walter Allen, Daniel Howland, Frances Taber Wm Cobb, Joshua Mader, Thomas Anthony, John Warren Matthew Wriston, Benj Joshua Jenkins, George Mitchell, John Tarnum John Brown Stephen Arnold Daniel Johnson, James V. Fry, Nicholas Cowden John Osborn Wm Jenkins, Jonathan Dennis, Stephen Gould, David Buffum Elijah Chase Oliver Chase, Caleb Nichols, Samuel Thurber Benj Rich Wm Reynolds Prince Gardner Silas Tarnum, Moses Mathie, Joseph Metcalf, Andrew Nichols, & Ebenezer Pope ——

The Minute is also in the Clerk ——

It is concluded that our State meetings be held as followeth, viz.t at Providence in the 8th and 11th months, on the seventh day after the first fifth days in each of those months, at the 9th hour in the morning, and at Providence again in the second month to meet at the 3 hours afternoon of the day of holding Rhode Island Select Quarterly Meeting: At East Greenwich on the day of holding the Select Quarterly Meeting at West Place, at the 3 hour in the afternoon, [illegible] with R.I. on the day of holding the Select Yearly Meeting at that place at the 3 hour of said day P.M.

330
1832
7 mo

At a Special Meeting of the Meeting for Sufferings at Providence this 4 day of the 7 mo - 1832 convened in conformity to the following Request - Namely - To the Clerk of the Meeting for Sufferings -

Calling a Meeting

The Subscribers having learned that the desolating Cholera has appeared in New York and may probably travel further Eastward, the Boarding School Committee at their usual Meeting, having considered the Case of the largeness of the School are apprehensive it may be expedient to have it dispersed if not wholly vacated for a season; but some Friends being doubtful of the Right or Authority, of their said Subcommittee to make such vacation; and it being desirable that every proper measure be pursued in for the satisfaction and Safety of Friends, desire thee to call a Meeting for Sufferings, to meet at Providence to morrow at 10 Oclock to consider and advise on the Subject -

Providence 5 of 7 mo 1832 -

Moses Brown
Daniel Haviland
William Almy
John Osborn
Moses Farnum
Stephen Gould
John Farnum -

To Thos Haviland
Clerk of the Meeting
for Sufferings -

Present 12 Members -

Concerning opening the School

The Subject has claimed the solemn and deliberate consideration of this Meeting and on taking a view of the largeness of the School, at the present time, and the great difficulty that must necessarily attend the removal, or proper care taking of the Scholars should visit this place
provided this truly awful Disease and from various other circumstances which must necessarily be connected with such a State of things, united in prospect, that the acting Sub committee of the School should be advised and authorized by this Meeting, to take the most prudent and effectual measures to disperse the present number of Scholars if in their judgement, circumstances may make it appear more proper and advisable to cause an entire vacation of the School for a time that they will be justified in pursuing such a measure -

The Clerk of this Meeting is directed to furnish the acting Sub committee, of the School, with a Copy of this Minute -

Providence 4th of 8th mo. 1832

This being the day on which the Meeting for Sufferings were to have convened, divers of its Members assembled at the time, but there was not a sufficient number to transact business. The deficiency is apprehended to have occasioned by the appearance in this City, of several cases, which proved fatal, of the awful Pestilence now prevailing in many parts of our Country, called the Asiatic Cholera.

The Portland 6th

A Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence 3d of 11mo 1832. Present fifteen members.

The subject of Investing the money that remains of the avails of the sales of the old Meeting House in Boston, coming under consideration, and it appearing that William Hallowell has loaned said money by an agreement with this Meeting at a former time, is willing to continue to hold said sum, say one thousand three hundred & eighty dollars, and allow the common rate of Interest — which being agreeable to this Meeting, He is requested to give his Obligation for said amount to John Farnum as Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting. And he is also requested to pay over to said Treasurer, such Interest as shall have accrued and may be now due, as likewise such Interest as may accrue hereafter, from said Property, while the same shall annually remain loaned by him.

This Meeting is informed by one of its Members living in the State of New Hampshire that the Legislature of that State were about to make some alterations in their Militia Law — and that a Bill had been prepared by a Committee of that Body, by which it is apprehended if it should become a Law Friends might be subjected to sufferings, as the Bill embraced no provisions whereby the conscientious scruples of Friends regarding War would be provided for.

The Meeting after deliberating on the subject appoint Thomas Haviland, Wm Jenkins, Wm Hume, Stephen Gould, John Farnum and Stephen Chase to confer with other Members of this Meeting living in that State, and take such steps & procure such counsel in regard to the subjects as may appear necessary and best, & report to a future Meeting.

This Meeting received an account of some expenses arising from using a Drain from the Cellar under Friends Meeting House in Boston, amounting to twenty-five dollars. The Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting is requested to pay said amount.

A

1832
11mo

A Testimony from the Monthly Meeting of South Kingstown regarding our deceased Friend Dorcas Peckham, having been presented to this Meeting for its examination, by Rhode Island Quarterly Quarterly Meeting, was read at this time

The further consideration of said Testimony is referred to Wm Hiney and Thomas Rowland, who are requested to report to our next Meeting

1833
2mo

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence 6th of 2mo 1833 — Present 18 members

The Clerk of this Meeting being absent, David Buffum is appointed Clerk for the day

Treasurer Report

John Tanner the Yearly Meetings Treasurer reported, that he had received of William Hiney, an Obligation, for one thousand three hundred & eighty dollars, as directed by minute of last Meeting

The Committee to whom was referred the Testimony received from Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting for further examination, and being present, the subject is referred to our next meeting

Several subjects relative to the welfare of the Society were introduced and discussed at this time

5mo

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at East Greenwich 1st of 5th mo 1833 — Present 15 members

The Committee appointed, further to inspect, the Memorials presented by South Kingstown Monthly Meeting, reported the same, with some small alterations, which was so approved by this Meeting as to direct it to be laid before our next Yearly Meeting

An Account of Expenses, of holding our last Yearly Meeting, was presented at this time, by the Committee appointed by this Meeting last Year, to make the necessary provision for the accommodation of said Yearly Meeting, amounting to six hundred & eighty-three dollars 65 Cents — The balance due said Committee being three hundred, eighty-three dollars & 65 cents, the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting is authorized to pay — And the subject of making similar provision for our ensuing Yearly Meeting being considered, we appoint David Buffum

Stephen Gould, Nicholas Longdon William Reynolds, Matthew Purinton, and Thomas Hoxland, to make the necessary provision, and they are authorized to call on the Yearly Meeting's Treasurer for five hundred dollars, and Rhode Island Monthly Meeting is requested to lend its aid as on former occasions.

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Portsmouth on Rhode Island 15th of 6th Mo. 1833

Present 28 Members

The committee appointed in the 11th Mo. last, on account of a Bill having been presented to the Legislature of the State of New Hampshire by a Committee appointed by that Body, respecting the Militia Laws of that State, Report, that it has paid attention to the Subject of their appointment, and inform that the Legislature is now in Session & that in some conversations had by several of the Committee with diverse Members of the Legislature a friendly feeling was manifested towards Friends & a wish to be more particularly informed of the grounds on which Friends predicate their religious and conscientious scruples against ~~against~~ War — but that no circumstance had occurred or occasion offered since the appointment of the Committee that had induced them to believe that any direct application to the Legislature could have been usefully made. — The Committee are continued and requested to attend to the subject as way may open — and report to a future Meeting.

A Testimony of Oliver Winslow concerning his wife Sarah Winslow, approved by China Monthly Meeting & Uxbridge Quarterly Meeting was presented & read at this time and being approved by this Meeting, is directed to be laid

before our ensuing Yearly Meeting.

The Clerk is directed to lay the proceedings of this Meeting for the last year before the Yearly Meeting.

Adjourned to the close of the Yearly Meeting.

Tho.s Hoxland Clk.

Close of the Yearly Meeting, met agreeably to adj.t

Present Thirty-one Members

Yearly Meeting 1833

The following Friends are appointed by the Y. M.g, to constitute a Meeting for Sufferings for the ensuing Year or till another appointment, Viz.t

Thos. Anthony
John Warren
Matthew Purinton
Joshua Jenkins
George Mitchell
John Farnum
John Brown
Stephen A Chase
Daniel Johnson
James N Fry
Benjamin Fry
Nicholas Congdon
John Osborn
Wm. Jenkins
Jonathan Dennis
Stephen Gould

David Buffum
Abijah Chase
Oliver Chace
Caleb Nichols
Perez Peck
Wm. Reynolds
Prince Gardner
Moses Farnum
Moses Starkie
Joseph Metcalf
Andrew Nichols
Ebenezer Pope
Isaiah Jones
Thos. Fry, of Bolton
John Meader
Edward Wing

Moses Brown
Wm. Hiny
Rowland Greene
Thomas Hoxland
Benjamin Freeborn
James Tucker
Rowland Rathbun
Abm. Sherman Jr.
Stephen Jones
Estes Nuchall
Cornelius Hoxland
Walter Allen
Daniel Hoxland
Francis Taber
Wm. Cobb
Joshua Wader

From the Minutes Abm. Sherman Jr Clk.

Tho.s Hoxland is appointed Clerk for the Year insuing

It is concluded that the Stated Periods for holding our Meetings be as last year, and at the same Places

1833
8mo

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence 3d of 8mo. 1833. Present 13 members.

The Clerk being absent, John Tarmon is appointed for the day.

Expenses of Meeting

The Acct of the Expenses of holding our last Yearly Meeting was presented by the Committee in 6th mo. last to make the necessary Provision for the accommodation of the same amounting to $59.48 Cts the Balance due them $9.48 the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting is directed to pay said Committee.

1st mo. 1833

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence 9 of 11mo. 1833. Present 21 members.

Militia N. Hamp.

The Committee appointed in the 11th month 1832, respecting a Bill then pending before the Legislature of New Hampshire relative to the Militia Laws of that State; now inform "That the Bill was not adopted by the Legislature; and that the Laws exempting Friends from Military requisitions stand as heretofore." The Committee are therefore dismissed from further attention to the subject.

Salem

An Account from Salem Monthly Meeting amtg. to $60.73 Cents for Expenses attending the further accommodation & holding Meetings &c. in Friends Meeting House in Boston was presented, and being approved the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting is requested to pay.

1834
2mo

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence 2mo. 5th 1834. Present 18 members.

The Clerk being absent, William Jenkins is appointed to that service for this time.

This Meeting has at this time, been engaged in the consideration of several subjects, connected with the best interest of our Religious Society, but have not come to any conclusions, requiring to be put on record.

1834 4 mo

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at East Greenwich 8th of 4 mo 1834 Present 14 members —

The Subject of making Provision for the accommodation of the Ensuing Yearly Meeting coming under consideration, it is concluded to make arrangement as last Year — and William Reynolds, Edward Wing, Stephen Gould, Matthew Purinton, Benj Peck, & Thos Howland are appointed a Committee, to take the necessary care, and are authorized to call on the Yearly Meeting's Treasurer, for the sum of four hundred dollars, on Account, to be appropriated to the Purposes aforesaid — And Rhode Island Monthly Meeting is desired to lend its assistance, in aid of said Committee, as heretofore

Provision for Y. M.

6th mo

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Portsmouth Rhode Island 4th. of 6th. month 1834. Present 29 members.

The Clerk being absent Stephen A. Chase is appointed Clerk for this time.

The following exists from the meeting for Sufferings of the Yearly Meeting of Ireland held 2d. of 3d. month 83. was received at this time; and the same being read the contents of it were very acceptable and cordial to Friends minds.

"To the several Meetings for Sufferings in America

Dear Friends,

In the recollection of the long and deep interest which has prevailed in our religious Society both in this country and in America on the subject of the abolition of the slave trade and of slavery, we have felt a warm desire that our dear friends on your side of the Atlantic may be encouraged to consider at the present critical period, the course which it may be right for them to pursue on behalf of the long injured sons of Africa and their descendants.

The striking combination of circumstances which has attended the final measures of our government for the abolition of British colonial slavery has been very instructive; the very circumstances which could not be brought to bear at any time upon the subject by the wisdom and contrivance of man. We believe at the same time that in viewing this result upon the Christian efforts of which have been employed for the entire Extinction of Slavery within the dominion of Great Britain; and hence we are led to encourage your desires to act faithfully yet wisely, at the present important crisis.

1834 Meeting for Sufferings London

1834
6 mo.

We are well aware, dear brethren, that there are
[illegible] it is much easier to raise the voice of compassion and justice
on behalf of our fellow subjects in distant colonies, than
[illegible] the free people of colour, as is the case with you. - Still
the principle is the same, invariable in its character
[illegible] which the continuance of these evils is incompatible;
[illegible] powerfully prevailed in hastening the termination of
British Colonial Slavery: may it be so in America. -

In the warmth and freedom of brotherly love, we
intreat you fearlessly to avow these sentiments, to take
[illegible] divert you from your purpose - to assert that freedom,
[illegible] equally with the white men: that they have an undoubted right to enjoy their freedom, in the place where Providence has given them birth. - We apprehend that great and on some points independent power is vested in the legislatures of your respective States. You may therefore see it right to make a renewed and full avowal to them as well as to the federal Government of which the continuance of these evils is incompatible; and in those states where Slavery still exists, to ask for its speedy and utter extinction under wise and just regulations. -

We do not forget that the circumstances of our
[illegible] different: in some slavery is abolished; in others it still exists in all its enormities. We feel much for those who live amongst the Slaves, and desire that they may continue to look unto God, and to trust in him in the midst of all their difficulties. To those who are exempt from this calamity, we would submit, whether they are not [illegible] treated as equals in civil and religious society. To admit and to act upon these views in the free states appears to us likely

308
1834
6 mo

to contribute to the abolition of slavery in those parts of the union where it still exists, there has been done in this country by improving the tone of public feeling on the subject of Slavery and by the general diffusion of correct Christian sentiments amongst the people at large. We mention these things in love without attempting to suggest to you any specific course of conduct.—

To avow and to advocate to the full extent in all parts of the United States the sentiments which we have advanced may in some be thought to be endangering public peace; the evil must be considered of such a magnitude that human efforts cannot remove it. But, dear brethren, as the love of justice and equity which christianity teaches is constantly upheld and followed in the spirit which became the followers of the meek and lowly Jesus, we have abundant cause to believe that He who ruleth over all, will bless the efforts of those who are thus engaged. & that more in reliance upon his goodness and mercy, and with little not that which their hands find to do they may humbly yet confidently commit their cause to his all-controuling power, whilst delay, or the [illegible] even now might be uncertain. Under our circumstances, accept our encouragement to look for strength to do right, and boldly to plead the cause of the oppressed; and to urge the total removal of this guilt from a nation whose civil liberty is so fully portrayed and so highly prized by those who enjoy its blessings.—

In conclusion we would further add that in thus freely communicating our views we write in much christian love and sympathy. We offer them to your serious attention being well assured of the deep and lively interest which our dear brethren and sisters in America can feel in the termination of slavery. May the Lord be pleased to guide your deliberations in this concern and to enable you to act to the honour of his great and ever blessed name.

On the behalf of the Meeting we are your affectionate friends and brethren.

Signed in and on behalf of our Meeting for Sufferings held in London the 7th of the 3d Month 1834.

[illegible]

P.S. We will be obliged to be informed connected with the foregoing epistle which you may transmit to us.—

The subjects treated of in said epistle being under consideration in this meeting, a concern has been expressed, that Friends in their individual capacities may be encouraged to do whatsoever they may rightly do, in furtherance of the moral, religious and literary improvement of the people of colour in our Country; - and whereas in the right exercising such efforts for the advocating the cause of this injured people, Friends here, will, we trust, be disposed cordially to unite with their brethren of other Yearly Meetings in further endeavours for their good.

timony
ooke

A testimony of Falmouth Monthly Meeting held 2d month 27. 1834, approved by Falmouth Quarterly Meeting held 4th month 8th 1834 - concerning our friend Edward Cooke late of Portland deceased, being read at this time, is so far approved, as to be directed to be laid before the Yearly Meeting. -

The Clerk is directed to lay the records of the proceedings of this meeting the past year before the Yearly Meeting. -

Adjourned to the close of the Yearly Meeting. -

Close of the Yearly Meeting met by adjournment

Present 27 members -

The following Friends are appointed by the Yearly Meeting to constitute a Meeting for Sufferings the ensuing Year -

Moses Brown
William Almy
Rowland Greene
Thomas Rowland
Benjamin Freeborn
Graham Shearman Jr.
James Tucker
Rowland Rathbun
Stephen Jones
Estes Newhall
Cornelius Howland
Walter Allen
Daniel Howland
Francis Taber
William Cobb
Joshua Meader
Thomas Anthony
John Warren
Matthew Purinton
Joshua Jenkins
George Mitchell
John Farnum
John Brown
Stephen A Chase
Daniel Johnson
James N Fry
Benjamin Fry
Nicholas Easton
John Osborn
William Jenkins
Jonathan Dennis
Stephen Gould
David Buffum
Elijah Chase
Elisur Chase
Caleb Nichols
Perez Peck
William Reynolds
Prince Gardner
Moses Farnum
Moses Starkey
Joseph Metcalf
Andrew Nichols Jr.
Ebenezer Pope
Josiah Jones
Thomas Fry, of Bolton
John Meader
Edward Wing
Arnold Congdon
John Grissom
William Bassett
Gurdy Howland
Nathan Pope

Thomas Howland is appointed Clerk for the Year ensuing.

It is concluded to hold our stated Meetings as last Year -

1834 340
8 mo

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence
9 of 8th mo 1834 — Present sixteen Members —

The Committee appointed to make Provision for the accom-
modation of our last yearly Meeting, made Report, That they
had (they) attended to the Subject, and presented an Acct of Expenses
amounting to $944.88 Cents, and the sum of $400 dollars
having been advanced, the balance $544.88 Cents the Yearly
Meetings Treasurer is requested to pay to William Reynolds

Some Subjects relative to the concerns of the Society having
been under consideration and it appearing meet for this Meeting
to have an adjournment it is concluded to adjourn to the third
day of ninth month next, to meet at Providence at the 9th hour in
in the morning ——

Ninth month third, Met according to adjournment —
—— Present 18 members —
The Clerk being absent, John Farnum is appointed Clerk
for this time —

Our Friend Jeremiah Hubbard attended this Meeting
with a Copy of a Minute from the Meeting for Sufferings of North
Carolina Yearly Meeting, relative to the situation of the People
of Colour under the care of that Meeting, and gave some further
verbal explanation of their condition — The Subject claimed the
sympathy and deliberate consideration of the Meeting — And we
appoint William Almy, John Farnum, John Griscom, Cornelius
Howland Moses Farnum and Joseph Metcalf, a Committee to
obtain Subscriptions, should they think best after obtaining further
information on the subject, for the purpose of assisting Friends of
North Carolina in removing the coloured people under its care to free
States and report to a future Meeting —
Some other Subjects relative to the Concerns of the Society have
claimed the Consideration of the Meeting at this time —

Information from N C Yearly Meeting respecting Coloured People

11 mo

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Pro-
-vidence, 8th of 11th month 1834 —
Present twenty one Members

The Committee appointed on the Subject
introduced at our last Meeting by a Minute from
the Meeting for Sufferings of North Carolina, relative
to the People of Colour under the Care of that Yearly
Meeting, Report — That they had attended to the Subject
and that they had obtained Subscriptions amounting
to Six Hundred Dollars and had forwarded the same to
Friends of that Meeting, the receipt of which had been
acknowledged —

Money forwarded to N Coard Yearly Mg

Received the London general Epistle of this present year — which was read — its contents are acceptable & edifying — It is concluded to have 2500 Copies reprinted, and Abraham Shearman Jr & Cornelius Haviland are appointed to have charge of the business, and are authorized to call on the present Meeting's Treasurer for money to defray the expense of printing

(At a Meeting held the 3rd of 12th month 1833 — present 19 members —

The Clerk being directed to enquire into the state of the Stock belonging to this Meeting, reported that he had done so, and that there remained in the Treasurer's hands the sum of $50 which the present Meeting directed to be paid over to the Treasurer of the Quarterly Meeting

Whereas, at this time a Communication from the Meeting for Sufferings of North Carolina on the subject of the removal of the people of colour under the care of that Meeting to the State of Indiana, was read, and the subject solidly considered by this Meeting, and a minute thereupon made, directing Friends to take the same into their consideration, and report their sentiments thereon to the next Meeting —

(At a Meeting held the 1st of 1st month 1834 — present 18 members —

The subject of the removal of the people of colour under the care of North Carolina Yearly Meeting to the State of Indiana, was again taken under consideration, and this Meeting expresses its sympathy and solicitude for their welfare, and as that Society have deemed it best to take measures relative to the subject at this time, this Meeting does not feel itself called upon to interfere with the subject —

The subject of making provision for the accommodation of Friends at our ensuing Quarterly Meeting coming on for consideration, William Taylor, Samuel Haviland, Henry Clark, Jonathan Dennis & Edward Hicks — with the Overseers are appointed a Committee to attend the Quarterly Meeting & make the necessary arrangements for the accommodation of Friends, and report to the next Monthly Meeting

Whereas, a letter has been received from the Meeting for Sufferings of North Carolina on the subject of the removal of the people of colour under the care of that Meeting to the State of Indiana, and the subject solidly considered by this Meeting, and a minute thereupon made, directing Friends to take the same into their consideration, and report their sentiments thereon to the next Monthly Meeting —

(At a Meeting held the 1st of 2nd month 1834 — present 18 members —

The subject of the removal of the people of colour under the care of North Carolina Yearly Meeting to the State of Indiana, was again taken under consideration, and this Meeting expresses its sympathy and solicitude for their welfare, and as that Society have deemed it best to take measures relative to the subject at this time, this Meeting does not feel itself called upon to interfere with the subject —

The subject of making provision for the accommodation of Friends at our ensuing Quarterly Meeting coming on for consideration, William Taylor, Samuel Haviland, Henry Clark, Jonathan Dennis & Edward Hicks — with the Overseers are appointed a Committee to attend the Quarterly Meeting & make the necessary arrangements for the accommodation of Friends, and report to the next Monthly Meeting

Whereas, a letter has been received from the Meeting for Sufferings of North Carolina on the subject of the removal of the people of colour under the care of that Meeting to the State of Indiana, and the subject solidly considered by this Meeting, and a minute thereupon made, directing Friends to take the same into their consideration, and report their sentiments thereon to the next Monthly Meeting —

1835. 6 mo.

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Portsmouth in Rhode Island 13 of 6 mo. 1835. Present 29 members

A Testimony or Memorial from Sidney Monthly Meeting approved by Vassalboro Quarterly Meeting Concerning our beloved friend Chin Paddock deceased, was received & read, and after deliberate consideration it is concluded to Submit the Memorial to the further inspection and review of a Committee, who are desired to examine the same, and report to a future sitting of this Meeting, any Omissions or alterations which they may judge proper to be made in said Memorial, if any such alterations or Omissions shall appear necessary

This Meeting received also a Memorial Concerning our beloved friend Abel Collins, from South Kingstown Monthly Meeting approved by Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting which was read, and after a few verbal alterations was directed to be laid before the Yearly Meeting —

The Communication from a Committee of the Meeting for Sufferings of North Carolina Yearly Meeting of Friends coming again under consideration, it is concluded to lay the following Extracts from it, before our ensuing Yearly Meeting viz From a Committee appointed by the Meeting for Sufferings of North Carolina Yearly Meeting held at Deep River in the 4th month 1835 to collect information to lay before the Yearly Meetings for Sufferings on this Continent and in London, of the condition of the oppressed Indian inhabitants, and other circumstances relative to the subject

Dear Friends We have sent to five Governments about one hundred & [illegible] years. The whole cost has been about $20,500 dollars from 1832 until last 7th month we had defined sending any more away on account of five Law Suits being commenced against us for about forty of our people; some in possession and some not away; for fear of incurring greater damage until the Suits were decided in the Supreme Court In that month our attorney at Law informed us, that the Supreme Court had made a favorable decree, named the Claimants and granted a new Trial, in all the five Suits — xxx

Upon this information we called a Meeting for Sufferings and our Friends were appointed to go immediately into the Indian Country where the greater part of our people reside to encourage and assist them to leave the State; to examine the title of our lands, and to proceed to the North to lay

6 mo

the subject before us for sufferings there and ask their advice & aid, which they did, and blame us for not to remove one hundred and thirty three, or still remains under our care about 220 which we anticipate making a great effort to ensuing spring to send them all to the free states, if we can obtain sufficient funds —

We have the promise of $150 from friends in Philadelphia $50 from New York and about $150 in hand, we are informed that friends of Indiana are raising some sum we believe not what the amount may be — We have the promise of assistance from friends in England, we have not how much our Law suits may yet cost us, if we should conclude to drop the suits and pay for our land, provided we will pay ours, which we have thought would be better than to continue in litigation with them any longer. The whole cost of the five suits will probably be near a thousand dollars or it may be more, but if they should stand suit and we gain them they will have to pay their own costs and the legal part of ours, which of course will make ours several hundred dollars less — We calculate from what the 133 cost us, that we must allow last fall, that it will require $200 dollars more than we have on hand and what will be sums promised, to pay all the expenses of our Law Suits, and the expense of sending the 220 persons of colour now under our care, to free Governments. Could we obtain them sum by the first or middle of the fourth month next, we think we could remove them all to the free States the ensuing spring —

We should feel greatly relieved in mind if we could redeem them from Slavery, for Slaves they are; and will be, if they continue in this State, although we do not hold them as Slaves, yet they are so in the eye of the Law, and we know not how soon they may be violently wrested from us and sold into perpetual and Hereditary Slavery —

We crave the Christian Sympathy and aid of our Brethren in our final effort to deliver these coloured people under our care from a state of perpetual and inevitable Slavery. As we believe a Gracious Providence has favored us so far in this great work, we hope he will still continue his blessing upon it, until it is finally consummated. Then we exhibit to publish a digest of all the varied concerns belonging to it, and probably a history of the most remarkable transactions and events relative to the Subject —

For deep and weighty concern for the danger that our poor coloured people are in of being reduced to Slavery, and in tender feeling of Brotherly Love we remain your friends —

Signed by direction of the meeting for Sufferings held in the 11th mo 1824. by

John Stuart Clk

P. S. Whatever donation, if any, you may be disposed to send us, please to direct them to Miles White, our Agent, of Elizabeth City, Pasquotank County N. C. and to him or David White our Eastern Treasurer of the African fund, informing James Wardenhall, Treasurer of the Trustees of the African Fund, or John Stuart, Clk of the Meeting for Sufferings, both Jamestown P. O. Guilford Co. N. C.

Ad

1835
6 mo.

Adjourned to half past seven o'clock on fourth day morning the 17th instant.

Fourth day morning the 17 met in pursuance of adjournment

O. Paddock

present 35 members.

The Memorial concerning our beloved friend Obed Paddock directed to be submitted to the inspection of a committee at our last sitting was presented by said Committee, and being again read and considered by this Meeting it is concluded, after a few omissions & some other small & verbal alterations, proposed by said committee were made, to lay the same before the Yearly Meeting now sitting

An Address to the Meeting for Sufferings of Friends in London acknowledging the receipt of their Epistle dated 3 mo. 7. 1834 was prepared and directed to be signed by the Clerk of this Meeting and forwarded to that Meeting — and is as followeth, —

Address to the Meeting for Sufferings of Friends in London

To the Meeting for Sufferings of Friends held in London

Dear Friends;

Your Epistle addressed to this Meeting and to Meetings for Sufferings in this Country dated 3 mo. 7. 1834 — was received by us — We claimed our deliberate consideration and were favored before our last Yearly Meeting and there read — We sympathize in your feelings of concern on account of the continued existence of Slavery in the British Colonies — We have received your Epistle, which is addressed to the Meeting for Sufferings held in Philadelphia and to the Meeting for Sufferings in England 6 mo. 14 — 1834."

"An Epistle from the Meeting for Sufferings of Friends held in London 7th of 3 mo. 1834 was received at this time, & being read it contained matter very acceptable and cordially to Friends minds — The subjects treated of in said Epistle being under the deliberation of this Meeting, it has been approved, that Friends in their individual capacities may be encouraged to do whatever they may rightly do, in the furtherance of the glorious & religious improvement of the rights of [illegible] and whenever any right opening that appears further advancing the cause of this injured people Friends here will be [illegible] cordially to unite with their brethren of other yearly Meetings in further endeavours for their good."

The subject of Slavery continues to engage our attention, we [illegible] in relation to it are felt to be deeply interesting, although we [illegible] with pain that "The striking combination of circumstances which hindered the final measure of your Government for the abolition of British Colonial Slavery has been the instrument on the rejection of the measure as an encouraging evidence of the increasing influence of true Christian principles" — In brotherly Love we remain your friends, [illegible]

[illegible]

The Clerk is directed to lay the Records of this Meeting for the past year before the yearly Meeting —

(Adjourned to the close of this Yearly Meeting)

Thos. Rowland Clk

(At the close of the Yearly Meeting 6 mo 19 met agreeable to adjournment. Present 25 members —

It appears that the Yearly Meeting has reached into the same Friends that were appointed last year to consult with a Meeting for Sufferings to constitute a meeting for Sufferings for the ensuing year, with the exception of Catharine Rowland & Sarah Jones deceased and John Jarvis removed out of the limits of this Yearly Meeting —

Daniel Rowland Clerk

Thomas Rowland is appointed Clerk of this Meeting for the ensuing Year —

It is concluded that our Select Meetings be held as usual —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence 7th of 8 mo 1835 — Present 17 members —

The Committee appointed to make Provision for our last Yearly Meeting, Report an Account amounting to $33.75 Cents this being the sum they have laying a balance due said Committee of $33.75 cents which the Treasurer is requested to pay to William Reynolds or Order — said Account being approved by this Meeting

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence 4th of 11 mo 1835 — Present 16 members —

A Minute from the Treasurer of Salem Monthly Meeting charging the Expenses of holding Care of Friends Meeting House in Boston amounting to $33.75 cents was presented which was read & the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting is requested to pay to William Jepson —

This Meeting has had various subjects under consideration, but it has not been thought necessary to enter on Minutes —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence 3 of 2 mo 1836 — Present 16 members —

The Clerk not being present David Buffum is appointed for this time —

The London printed General Epistle of 1836 was received & read at this time and two Thousand Copies ordered to be printed —

Was likewise received and read an Epistle from the same Yearly Meeting addressed to its Subordinate Meetings — and this Meeting desiring its contents should be widely circulated among its members direct that five Thousand Copies of this Epistle be also printed — and Arnold Congdon and C. Allen Printers are appointed to have them done and draw on the Yearly Meetings Treasurer to defray the expenses —

1836
5mo

At a Meeting of Sufferings held at East Greenwich 4th of 5th mo. 1836 — Present 15 members —

The Committee appointed at our last meeting have the Epistles from the Yearly Meeting of Friends held in London reprinted, informed that they had attended to the subject for which they were appointed. The expense of Printing was $6 which sum they had received of the Yearly Meetings Treasurer —

A Memorial concerning our beloved friend Obadiah Brown deceased, given forth by Providence Monthly Meeting, and approved by Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting was received and read in this Meeting — and after feelingly considering the subject, have believed it proper to lay the same before our next Yearly Meeting —

The subject of making provision for the accommodation of our ensuing Yearly Meeting coming under consideration, we appoint William Rotch Jr., Edward Wing, Perez Peck, Jonathan Dennis, Matthew Purinton & Thomas Howland to make the necessary arrangements, and they are authorized to call on the Yearly Meetings Treasurer for six hundred dollars to be applied for that purpose — And Rhode Island Monthly Meeting is requested to lend its aid as heretofore —

A Bill for taking care of Friends Meeting House in Boston, from the third month 1835 to third month 1836 was presented by the Treasurer of Salem Monthly Meeting, amounting to seven dollars which being approved by this Meeting, The Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting is desired to pay said Bill and take receipt therefor —

6mo

At a Meeting of Sufferings held at Portsmouth R.I. 11th of 6mo. 1836 — Present thirty members —

[illegible] consideration, and prepare to a future sitting of this Meeting, what if any thing it may appear to them, would be proper for this Meeting to take in reference to the subject —

approved by Salem Quarterly Meeting 34

[illegible] concerning our friend Daniel Hazard deceased

by Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting

considering the subject, it appeared proper to submit this likewise to the

the further inspection and examination of the Committee, appointed

on the former occasion. [illegible]

At a Meeting for Sufferings held in London the 1st of 4mo 1836

A short account of a late date of the Gospel labors of our dear friend Daniel Wheeler in the South Sea Islands has been brought in from the Committee who have the care of Visits in foreign parts, and read in this Meeting at this time: it contains interesting information of the consequences of the intercourse with these Islands on the part of Whaling and Merchant Vessels, for the purposes of refitting and for supplies &c. it appears that although ardent Spirits are prohibited from being sold or used in some of these Islands, much of this article is, notwithstanding, clandestinely introduced by these Vessels, to the [illegible] destruction of the lives of the Natives, and to the great injury of their welfare in every respect; and as it further appears that a large proportion of these Vessels are American, altho some of them are British, and that those from America are principally from the ports of New England, this Meeting thinks it right, in brotherly love, to call the attention of their friends of the Meeting for Sufferings of that Yearly Meeting to the subject, and desires the Committee before mention to transmit to the said Meeting a Copy of this Minute, with any other information on the subject that may seem desirable, and also to make a suitable representation of the case to our own Government —

Copy William Manley

Adjourned to meet at the usual time & place on the 4th day of the week

15th Met by adjournment Present 33 members —

The

1836
6 mo.

The Committee appointed to consider the subject introduced from receiving a Communication from the Meeting for Sufferings held in London made the following Report and accompanying Essay of Address Namely - The your Committee appointed to further consider of the Subject communicated from the Meeting for Sufferings held in London propose the adoption of the following Address - Namely - An Address from the Representatives of the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England to the members of the Society & others -

Address &c. -

At a Meeting of the Representatives of the Society of Friends in New England held on Rhode Island 6 mo. 1836 - An affecting account of the evils attendant upon the introduction of Ardent Spirits and fire Arms and other munitions of War, among the Natives of some of the Islands of the Pacific Ocean, was communicated to the Meeting thro' their foreign Correspondence - And being aware that many Vessels sailing from the various Ports of New England, were in the habit, in the course of their Voiages, of touching at these Islands for the purpose of Trade or refreshment, The Meeting were anxiously desirous of discouraging, as much as in them lay, the practice of carrying these Articles for the purpose of introducing them among those People -

In pursuance of this desire they feel constrained in Christian Love, earnestly to exhort all such as are in membership with us, who in the course of their Business are concerned in ships, touching at these Islands, to be exceedingly watchfull in guarding every possible avenue, by which such ships, or their Officers or Crews may become the means of carrying these destroying articles among these People - They feel that it cannot be necessary on the present occasion in calling the attention of the members of the Society of Friends to this important subject, to do more than remind them of the uniform concern of the Society to discourage the use of Ardent Spirits, and their ancient and steady Testimony against the Lawfulness of all Wars & Fightings, and consequently against suffering any in their employ, to trade in these articles - We feel that we live in a land in which the principles and precepts of the religion of Jesus Christ are very generally acknowledged to be of binding validity, and that therefore we may as professors of a common faith, extend our address beyond the pale of our own Society, and in the Christian feelings which wishes the welfare of the common race, remind all, who shall or who shall read this Address of that heavenly precept of the Lord Jesus, (All things whatsoever ye would that men should do unto you, do ye even so to them, for such is the Law and the Prophets - It appears us that no one can doubt, for a moment, that dreadful effects must inevitably follow the introduction of intoxicating liquors among a people unfurnished as the Natives of the South Sea Islands are, with those powerful motives which measurably stay the fearful progress in a land, like our own, has been long blessed with the possession of the Holy Scriptures, which emphatically teach, temperance in all things. - Few if any of the inhabitants of our own favored country can have failed to have witnessed the ravages of intemperance among ourselves; few if any can have failed to have seen the victims of this vice become the degraded objects of commiseration, a cost to all around them, and not only to excite the pity of those around them, but if such be the effects of intemperance here, surrounded as we are, with such powerful motives to avoid it, and with such unlimited restraints, constantly in operation to stay the destroyer, how fearfully devastating must be its effects among a people, who lack in a great measure, those aids to virtuous restraint, and to whose minds, much that would be powerful here, must be addressed in vain -

We are authorized from the information we have received, to state that in
[illegible] of these Islands, there is a fearful destruction of human life, hastened by the use of
[illegible] Spirits, whole families in some cases, both old & young being swept away - surely
something should be done to stop this desolating scourge of the human race - It is the suffering
cause of an afflicted, injured People, and calls loudly for the attention of all who
wish well to their fellow men - Can any who share the feelings of good will to man be
instrumental in producing madness among these Natives by furnishing the means of intoxica-
tion, and then supply them with weapons of destruction to complete their misery? Does it
need more than a simple statement of the evils produced to cause every one to pause e'er
he incurs the awful responsibility of contributing to evils like these? The Bible
declares, that surely there is a reward for the Righteous, surely there is a God who judg-
eth in the Earth, And can he be held guiltless who shall thus contribute to so much and
such hopeless misery - - - - If it be true that accountability is proportioned to knowl-
edge and the opportunities for information, how exceedingly must the responsibility of
the people of this Country be increased by the high and important privileges enjoyed by
us - and how exceedingly to be desired it is, that we might become the happy In-
struments in the Lords hands of spreading the Blessings of Civilation, and the knowl-
edge of the Holy Scriptures among those to whom they have not been so fully proclaimed;
and that we should spread the knowledge of these Glorious Truths, unaccompanied by
the evils and scourges which are too prevalent among the civilized portion of the
human Family - If pure Christianity in all its Glorious fulness could be introduced
how would the desolate places be made to blossom as the rose, and from the waste places
of the Earth sweet incense arise to the God and Father of all for his abundant
Mercies - Let us in the love of the Gospel convey to all who shall read these lines the
pathetic language of one of the Chiefs of the Island of Eimeo in the South Sea addressed
to one who was engaged in warning his people against the fearful evils of intemperance
He wished he say to me, said this person that after what I had declared to them relating
to the effects of strong Drink - He hoped I would go to Britany meaning England and beg that
people to have mercy on them, and then go to America and beg them there to have mercy also - because it
was those Countries that sent the poison among them - We cordially respond to this simple and pathetic
appeal -

which report and Essay are acceptable to the Meeting, and it appear-
ing desirable that the views and feelings of this Meeting should be
extensively known and understood, not only among ourselves members
but likewise among our fellow Citizens generally, - it is have
concluded to publish said Address for general distribution, and John Warren,
Abraham Shearman Jr Stephen Gould Stephen A Chase, George Howland,
Rowland Greene, John Meader, William Jenkins, and Prince Gardner are
appointed a Committee to have such number of Copies printed as
they may judge expedient, and circulated to such extent as may appear to
be necessary as circumstances may dictate -

The Committee appointed on the subject of Memorials, reported them
with some few Omissions and a few verbal alterations, the same are
now approved by this Meeting and directed to be laid before the
Yearly Meeting -

Adjourned to half past 2 of the Clock this afternoon -

Afternoon met by adjournment Present 34 members -

This Meeting having been brought into much feeling and exercise on account
of the publication and circulation of divers Books and Pamphlets,
, unauthorized by the Society, altho some of them have the signatures
of those who stand as Members of the Society, evidently holding out before
the Public sentiments and Views, contrary to those which have been held and explained by our Society concerning the
Doctrines and Principles of the Christian Dispensation; and only of former
date of later time, and now appoint Thomas Howland, Rowland Greene;
John Warren, Stephen Gould, John Meader, Stephen A Chase, Thomas Fry,
Thomas Anthony, William Jenkins, William Bassett, David Buffum
& Francis Foster, to take the subject into their consideration and report
to the adjournment of this Meeting, what in their judgment may be best
for this Meeting to do in reference to the further action of this Meeting, at this
time on this subject - Adjourned to meet at the 2d hour, to morrow Afternoon

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Afternoon the 16 met according to adjournment
Present 34 members —

The Committee appointed to take into further consideration the Subject Concerning Books & Pamphlets submitted to them Reported the following Extract of a Minute, which after being deliberately examined and considered is approved and adopted by this Meeting —

Declar of Faith

This Meeting having become painfully aware, that there are in circulation among our members, various Publications purporting to be Treatises upon and expositions of the Principles of our religious Society in various points of Doctrine, but which are unauthorized by the Society and give unsound and unjust views of our Christian Principles, and are calculated to lead the minds of the unwary away from the faith once delivered to the Saints, and from a settlement in the blessed Truths of the Gospel, always most surely believed and professed by us as a People, have felt themselves bound again to declare their unshaken faith in these Truths, thus sought to be laid waste —

We have always believed, we have been unwavering in our acknowledgement and profession of the Truths declared in the Scriptures, respecting the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ in the flesh, that He was conceived of the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, lived & suffered in the world went about doing good, confirmed by his precepts & Doctrines the future rewards of the righteous and the punishments of the wicked, and by Miracles, wherein all manner of diseases and sickness among the people, He shewed forth his power, his goodness and wonderful works among the children of men — and finally made an offering of himself on the cross, as a propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but for the sins of the whole world." And we are prepared to confess that, no other foundation can any man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ, or in the words of George Fox to the governor of Barbadoes, "This Jesus who was the foundation of the Apostles & Prophets is our foundation, and we believe there is no other foundation to be laid than that which is laid, even Christ Jesus, who tasted death for every man, shed his blood for all men, and is the propitiation for our sins." We have also been constant in the profession of our belief in the Authenticity of the Holy Scriptures, of the old and new Testaments, and in accordance with the testimony of Barclay do freely confess "That whatsoever doctrine is contrary to their Testimony may therefore be justly rejected as false" and further in the words of the same writer — "We do firmly believe that there is no other Gospel or Doctrine to be preached but that which was declared by Christ, and do freely subscribe to that saying of Paul that

1836 "preaches any other Gospel than that which has been already preached by the Apostles, and according to the Scriptures, he accursed"—

But while we have thus held and constantly professed, we have also been steadfast in our belief, according to the Scriptures, That this blessed Saviour appears in our hearts by his Spirit, according to his own Testimony, before he ascended to the Glory which he had with the Father before the world was, "I will not leave you comfortless I will come unto you." John XIV–18 and to the testimony of the Apostle "For God who commanded the Light to shine out of Darkness hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the Glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ, II Cor IV–6 — And we have ever been concerned to direct all to the Light of Christ in the heart of the soul, as that principle of Divine Life, by which alone regeneration and sanctification are to be witnessed, by which alone our dark hearts can be illuminated, and we made truly alive unto God — That while we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins, and that who were afar off are made nigh by the blood of Christ, we also firmly believe that it is only thro' living faith in him that we can come to experience the blessed effects of what He has wrought out for us — And this faith is not of ourselves it is the gift of God —

We are concerned renewedly to bear our testimony to the spirituality of the Christian Religion — That as the heart is deceitful above all things and desperately wicked, in our fallen and unregenerate state, & it is in the heart, that the work of Grace must be experienced, — And that in order thereto, we must submit to the cleansing operations of his Spirit there, become subject to his righteous Government and conformed to his holy will. Then indeed is He made unto us, "Wisdom & Righteousness and Sanctification and Redemption I Cor. I–30 And it is only as we thus dwell under the influence of the Holy Spirit in our minds, that we can experience any right qualification to labour in the blessed Master's cause; and may we all seek after and wait for the fresh putting forth of this Heavenly Guide, ever bearing in mind the declaration of Christ, "Without me you can do nothing" —

We are concerned earnestly to exhort all our members to seek a settlement in these everlasting truths, and avoiding all speculation; rather humbly pray for ability, in meekness & simplicity, to obey Gods Holy Will.

Avoid therefore, we beseech you all unprofitable reading, and the reading of those unsound doctrines & sentiments which are now in circulation, rather reverently read and meditate in the Holy Scriptures, with humble prayer to the Lord, that, He would open your hearts to receive, and savingly apply the Glorious Truths of His Gospel. so shall you be made partakers of His Salvation — Beloved Brethren and Sisters, we have no new Doctrines to offer, but we feel engaged earnestly to exhort all our fellow members to a careful observance of that solemn warning of our Lord & Saviour "The time shall come when they shall say, lo, here is Christ or lo, here, go not after them" —

Adjourned to the Close of the Yearly Meeting —

The

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The Clerk is directed to lay the Records of this Session before the Yearly Meeting now sitting —

Thos. Hazard Clerk —

Close of 9 Mo. Mtg.

At a Meeting held at the Close of the Yearly Meeting.

Present 25 members —

It appears that the Yearly Meeting has appointed the same Friends to constitute a Meeting for Sufferings that were appointed last Year excepting William & Mary George & Mitchell deceased and John Griscom removed —

Thomas Hazard is appointed Clerk of this Meeting the ensuing Year —

It is concluded that the stated times of Meetings for the future holding of this Meeting for the Present, be the same as last Year — Namely at Providence in the eighth and eleventh months on the seventh day after the holding of Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting in these months, to meet at the ninth hour in the morning — And at the same place in the second month on the day of holding Rhode Island Select Quarterly Meeting at the third hour in the afternoon and at East Greenwich in the fifth month on the day of holding the Select Quarterly Meeting at that place at the third hour in the forenoon — ☞ See the Setting of the Meeting in the 8th month on the other Leaf, turn over which ought to be read before the Minutes recorded on this page below — and those on the next page —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence the 8th of 8th Month 1836 —

Present 19 Members —

The Clerk of this Meeting being absent David Buffum is appointed Clerk for this time —

The Treasurer reported that he had paid the Salaries to the Clerks of the Yearly Meetings and Books for the Meetings for Sufferings and that he had received 90 Cents for the same which is ordered to be credited to the Meeting —

Letter from Ohio Mg for Sufferings

The following communication from the Meeting for Sufferings of Ohio Yearly Meeting was received and read at this time & the further consideration of which is referred to our next Meeting —

At this Meeting for Sufferings of Ohio Yearly Meeting held at Newport pursuant by adjournments from the 3d to the 8th of 8th month 1836 —

To the Meeting for Sufferings of the Yearly Meeting for New England —

Dear Friends —

This

This Meeting has had its attention called to some late publications of Elisha Bates a member of our Yearly Meeting, particularly one Entitled "E Bates' Vindication Revieved" The said Article having now been deliberately read, the Meeting feels itself called upon in the discharge of its duty to notice a misstatement of facts contained in it, by which the reputation of our religious Society is assailed — In that Publication Repository Vol 23 No 1, 5th — the Author speaking of an "Address," which he had prepared to the members of Ohio & Indiana Yearly Meetings, says, "The Address was decidedly opposed, and after various proceedings and discussions it was withdrawn. The opposition was to the resurrection of the dead and day of Judgment as set forth in Scripture language and the fact of its being in the language of the Scriptures was one of the Objections." We feel regret for the Author, and sincerely lament that he should have resorted to such Misrepresentations — The Meeting on hearing the Address read, did not apprehend it was expedient or called for, and as an exposition of the belief of our religious Society on the Resurrection of the dead and day of Judgment, it was obviously deficient, in that it contained few or no quotations from our acknowledged Works, shewing the uniform accordance of our Faith from the early period of the Society, with the Testimony of the Holy Scriptures ——

The allegations that the opposition was to the resurrection of the dead and day of Judgment as set forth in Scriptures, and that one of the propositions to him in the Committee appointed to examine the Address was, that he "should expunge from the Essay all the texts of Scripture on the subject, and supply their place with quotations from the writings of our early Friends as more clear and appropriate, are disingenuous and untrue — The Committee never were in possession of the paper, and never deliberated upon its merits — They stopped at the rise of the Meeting for Sufferings to consider when they should meet to take up the subject of their appointment, and agreed to convene on the following morning; when E Bates attended and informed them he had concluded to withdraw the Address —

Our Religious Society has allways believed and held the Doctrines in full accordance with the declarations of the Holy Scriptures concerning them; and both the Society and this Meeting have plainly and openly avowed them, when they have believed that circumstances rendered it necessary — In evidence of this declaration, we refer to the "Doctrines of Friends" pages 25 & 28 written by E Bates and approved by this Meeting ——

The Society has from its first rise always declared the Divine Authority of the Old and New Testaments and their Superior excellence to all other Writings whatsoever — Our Yearly Meeting has repeatedly recommended to its members the daily individual and collective reading in families of a portion of them — and has also taken care to have every family of Friends furnished with a copy.

And

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And we have always declared in the language of Robert Barc
that the Scriptures are the only "Fit outward Judge of Controversy
among Christians; and that whatsoever doctrine is contrary unto their
testimony, may therefor justly be rejected as false" —

But whilst we have thus highly esteemed the Sacred Writings,
we do not detract from their excellence or Divine Authority when
we quote the declarations of the Society in order to set forth its
Doctrines & Testimonies, believing as we do, that the Doctrinal
Treatises of the early writers of the Society, who were instrumental
in the Lords hand in gathering unto be a separate people are in
strict accordance with the Holy Scriptures and contain a clear
exposition of the true Christian Divinity — Hence we view
with deep concern and disapprobation the attempts which are made
in the publication before us, to lessen the Christian reputation of
our worthy Fore fathers in religious profession, and to discredit their
approved Writings — And as the attention of the Meeting has
been more particularly directed to the misrepresentations alluded
to above; yet the whole under consideration contains various other
unfounded charges against the reputation of our religious
Society —

The said Publication entitled "E Bates Vindication
reviewed" being found to relate to our religious Principles & Testimonies
and calculated to excite dissensity and discord, by insinuations
against the Christian soundness of the Society, and by charging
the Meeting for sufferings with opposing the doctrine of the
resurrection of the dead and day of Judgement as contained
in the Holy Scriptures; It is the judgment of this Meeting
that Short Creek Monthly Meeting, to which the Author belongs
ought to take notice of the case as the Discipline directs —

The Clerk is directed to furnish Short Creek Monthly
Meeting with a Copy of the foregoing Minute and
also each of the Meeting for Sufferings with which we have
correspond —

Extracted from the Minutes of the Meeting aforesaid
by Benjamin Hoyle Clerk —

Ann b

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence
6 of 8 mo 1836 Present 14 members —

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Expenses

An Account of the expenses for the accomodation of our
last Yearly Meeting, was presented by the Committee for that
purpose in fifth month last, amounting to one thousand
and eleven dollars & ninety cents, which is Allowed and the balance
to said Committee being $ 411.90 cents The Treasurer of the Y M is requested
to pay to Jonathan Dennis —

1836 The General Epistle of the Yearly Meeting of Friends held in
9th mo. London in the fifth month last was received and read at this time
to our satisfaction; and it is concluded to have three thousand
London Epistles copies printed, and Abraham Shearman Jr. and George Howland
are appointed to have that number printed and distributed to the
several Quarterly Meetings — We have likewise received from the
same Yearly Meeting an Epistle addressed to its subordinate Meetings
which after its being also read; appeared to us to promise usefulness in
giving it a more extensive circulation among our Members, conclude
to have the same number of them, as of the former printed in connection
with them —

The Committee to have an Address of this Meeting on the subject
Printing of Trafficing in ardent Spirits in Voiages in the Pacific Ocean, Printed
Address Report, That they have had five thousand Copies struck off, and that a part
of them are ready for distribution —

This Meeting having received information from Friends having care of
Meeting Friends Meeting House in Boston, that some repairs of the premises are
House in Boston necessary. the Committee of Salem Monthly Meeting having charge of the
House & Lot are requested to have the necessary repairs made and report
the Expense to this Meeting —

See on a former page the sitting of the Meeting in the 11 month 1837 —

1837 At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence 1st & 2 mo.
2nd mo. 1st 1837. Present 17 members —

The Clerk being absent, from ill health, David Buffum is ap-
pointed Clerk for this time —

Meeting for Sufferings Ohio The Communication from the Meeting for Sufferings of Ohio
Yearly Meeting dated 9 mo. 8 1836 being again read at this time
with feelings of deep interest, and having been entered on our Records
the Clerk is directed to furnish that Meeting with a Copy of this minute

Meeting for Sufferings London A very affecting and interesting account of the Traffic in Ardent
Spirits in some of the Islands of the Pacific Ocean, having been received
by this Meeting in the sixth month last from the Meeting for Sufferings
of London, and have having printed five thousand Copies of an Ad-
dress on the subject, and which have been extensively circulated in
this Country, the Clerk is desired to furnish that Meeting with a Copy
of said Address together with a Copy of this Minute —

Mosses Brown Records Our ancient & much beloved Friend Moses Brown, who for
many years had the care of the Yearly Meeting Records being
deceased, we appoint William Jenkins to take the care of them
until the sitting of our next Yearly Meeting —

Subject of Slavery The very important subject of the existance of Slavery in our Land
having been introduced to the consideration of this Meeting, we appoint
Rowland Greene, John Meader, Thomas Anthony, Stephen Gould
Thomas Howland, Moses Farnum, Arnold Congdon, Abraham
Shearman Jr. William Jenkins, David Buffum and William
Boffit to give farther attention to the subject, and if way should
open for it prepare an Essay of Address and present the same to our next
Meeting —

1837
5mo 3

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at East Greenwich the 3d of 5mo 1837 — Present 19 members —

David Buffum who acted as Clerk of this Meeting in 2d mo last, informs that he had forwarded Copies of Minutes to the Meeting for Sufferings of Friends in London, also to that of Ohio, as directed at our last Meeting —

On the subject of Slavery referred

The Committee appointed to take into further Consideration the Subject of Slavery as brought into view before this Meeting in the Second month last, inform that they have had attention to the Subject, but that they are not ready to report at this time

The Subject is continued under their care, and they desired to report to our next sitting, and Stephen Chase, & Daniel Johnson are added to said Committee —

Communication from Dover Quarterly Meeting on the Militia law of N.H.

The following Communication from Dover Quarterly Meeting, together with the subjoined Statement from its Committee was received; which claiming the serious attention of this Meeting, we appoint Abraham Shearman Jr John Meader, William Jenkins, William Barsett, Rowland Greene Arnold Congdon & Thomas Howland, to prepare an Essay of a Memorial to the Legislature of New Hampshire and present to the adjournment of this Meeting, and the Committee are requested to have one thousand Copies of a Letter written by Benjamin Bates, to a Member of the Virginia Legislature, reprinted, for circulation —

To the Meeting for Sufferings —

At Dover Quarterly Meeting held the 27 instant, the following Minute was made

"It appearing that a Bill was presented at the last Session of the Legislature of New Hampshire in which no provision was made for the exemption of Friends from Military duty, and which if it should become a Law, is calculated to cast a great burden on Society — The Subject claiming the attention of this Meeting, and believing its importance requires immediate care of Friends, we appoint John D Lang, John Brown Lindley M Hoag, Joseph Tuttle, Walter Sawyer, Benjamin Ivy, Jonathan Dame, Joshua Meader, & Joseph D Hoag, to make early application to the Meeting for Sufferings for its advice and Assistance therein, and otherwise act in the case as way may open or necessity require" — In pursuance

of their appointment the Committee above named having met and deliberated on the Subject, think best to address you in this way, requesting your advise and assistance in the case— Some of the Committee will, probably, be able to give their personal attendance at your next Meeting, it may be well to state some facts in relation to the subject for your information—

The present Law of the State of New Hampshire exempts Friends from Military duty on condition of their producing to the commanding Officer, once a year, a Certificate from the Elders or Overseers of the Meeting to which they belong, stating that they are members of the Society usually attend Friends Meetings, and in the opinion of the Elders or Overseers are conscientiously Scrupulous of bearing Arms,— With this exemption a portion of the people of the State have not been fully satisfied — they professes to think, that though it may be well enough to exempt Friends from training, yet in their opinion, it is but just and equal, that they should pay an equivalent in some sort of Tax— Frequent attempts have been made in the legislature to alter the Law so as to conform to that opinion— At the late Session in the House, a direct proposition to that effect was introduced, and after considerable discussion was rejected by a small majority—

Subsequently to which, the Bill, alluded to in the Quarterly Meeting Minute, was introduced, and after passing various Stages was postponed to the next Session, and ordered to be published in the News papers. This Bill makes a thorough change in the organization of the Militia, and contains no provision for the exemption of Friends as heretofore— We think it probable the Bill would not pass into a Law without the introduction of some such exemption if proper measures could be taken to inform and enlighten the Members of the Legislature in relation to Friends Principles in regard to war, and the ground of their conscientious refusal to pay any fine or Tax as the price of their exemption from military duty— It is to this point, that we ask the advice and assistance of the Meeting for Sufferings— And we would suggest the propriety of that Meeting's addressing to the Legislature of New Hampshire a suitable Memorial, setting forth Friends Views in these respects, with the reasons on which they are grounded, and having a sufficient number of Copies printed to supply every member of the Legislature— If this should be done and some suitable persons appointed personally to attend them with it, we think that not only a step would be taken to the passage of the present Bill but that public Opinion would become so far enlightened and satisfied on the subject that probably no further attempt of the kind might be made for years to come—

The

1837
5mo-3

The next Sessions of the Legislature commences on the first 4th day in the 6 mo next, and will probably continue one month — As the Bill may possibly be called up at an early day in the Session, we think it important that the Subject should claim the attention of the Meeting for Sufferings as early as practicable — Friends here are entirely disposed to act under the advice and direction of that Meeting, and are willing do any thing in their power that may be deemed proper in reference to the Subject — The Committee will be glad to receive from you, as soon as may be the result of your deliberation in the case, with any advice you may have to offer for their further guide in regard to it —

Signed by direction and on behalf of the Committee

John Brown

4 mo 28 - 1837 —

Expenses regarding Boston Mg House

An account from Salem Monthly Meeting arising from the repairs &c. around our Meeting House in Boston was presented, the Balance of which being thirty dollars, seventy cents, the Yearly Meetings Treasurer is requested to pay to William Basset, Treasurer of Salem Monthly Meeting —

Making provision for Y Mg

The consideration of making some provision for the accommodation of our ensuing Yearly Meeting being introduced we appoint Perez Peck, Matthew Purinton, William Reynolds Edward King, David Buffum, Thomas Howland & Stephen Gould to make the necessary arrangements — And said Committee are authorized to draw on the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting for six hundred dollars to be applied to that purpose — And Rhode Island Monthly Meeting is desired to lend its aid as on former occasions —

Adjournment

Adjourned to meet at Providence on the last third day of the present month, at the 3 hour in the afternoon —

5th mo 30th - 1837. Met agreably to adjournment

Present 14 Members —

The Committee appointed to prepare an Essay of an Address on the subject of Slavery, presented one, which after being deliberately considered is approved and is as follows

Address to Friends & others

The Subject of Slavery, as it now exists in some parts of our
No. 30 common Country, having been brought impressively before us,
at the present time, we have deemed right to call the attention
of our own, and of other Christian Communities to its serious
consideration —

It is well known, that the society of Friends, as a religious
body, have long maintained a decided Testimony against
holding their fellow Men in bondage — A Testimony which had
its origin in a deep felt conviction that the practice could not
be reconciled, with the precepts and doctrines of the Christian
Religion. — Yet in thus renewedly adverting to the Subject, we
felt no disposition to keep out of view, the fact, that in the early
settlement of Friends in this Country, many of them did, in
common with other professors of the Christian Name, participate
in the practice [illegible]; And
we have thought that encouragement would be derived from
a brief recurrence to the rise & progress of the concern for its
removal, so far as it relates to the Society of Friends —

Individuals of the Society, if not opposed to it from the
commencement, very soon became impressed with the Sys-
tem; they were drawn to a consideration of the Subject on
Christian Principle, and becoming fully convinced that it
was inconsistent with the Spirit of the Gospel of love and peace,
they felt themselves called upon, not only to bear an individ-
ual testimony against it, but from a sense of religious
duty, to labour in love, with their brethren for its removal.
They saw that the descendants of Africa were fellow
beings, equally with themselves the objects of Divine regard,
and that the Sacred Injunction of doing unto others, in all
things, as we would they should do unto us, was as ap-
plicable to them as to any other portion of the human family.
The patient and persevering efforts of these, and of other
pious men, who succeeded them, and in whom the love of
God was largely accompanied with its never failing attendant,
the love of man, were eminently blessed, — the concern gradu-
ally extended, till neighbourhoods and Meetings were brought
to see the inconsistency and injustice of claiming property
in their fellow men * and eventually the Society at
large, having in their collective capacity, long been duly
exercised with a consideration of the Subject, and having
gradually advanced, step by step towards so desirable a
result

1837 5mo 30

the enjoyment of
became united in restoring the natural and inalienable
rights of man, to all those who had been held in a state
of Slavery, by members of the Society, throughout the
several Yearly Meetings of Friends on this Continent — And
for more than half a century, no person could hold his fellow
being in bondage, and retain his connection with Friends

Our predecessors in religious faith, having thus cleared them-
selves and the Society, from any participation in a practice
which they believed to be inconsistent with the Doctrines and
Precepts of our blessed Lord and his Apostles, the subject
of Slavery has never ceased to occupy the feeling consideration
of Friends, as a body of professing Christians, concerned for
the promotion of Truth and Righteousness in the Earth; and
they have been led from time to time, to cast whatever weight
of influence they may have possessed, into the scale favorable
to the cause of the enslaved children of the African Race

The testimony which was so dear to our worthy predecessors,
and which they made many sacrafices to establish, while Sla-
very was yet tolerated in most, if not all the States, in which
they resided, is still cherished by us, and we have earnestly
desired, may ever be inviolably maintained by all our
members — We believe it to rest on the immutable basis of truth and
Justice, and of pure Christianity. We still continue deeply to
sympathize with all who are under oppression. Yet we would
remind all our dear Friends, of every class and station in the Society,
that as the concern had its origen in a faithful attention to the convic-
tions of religious duty, so we believe that in all our efforts to advance
this cause, as well, as in every other religious concern, we should
seek to Him for the guidance of His Holy Spirit, who has declared, "Without
me ye can do nothing" — Thus should we become qualified, not only
to see with clearness, what is called for at our hands, but the
concern itself, being preserved on its original ground, we should
be enabled to labour for its advancement, under the influence of Gospel
love, and with feelings of good will to every class of our fellow men.
And we would in tenderness of feeling add, that should any of our
members, be led, from whatever motive, to abandon this ground,
we fear, that not only individual loss would be sustained, but that
the cause itself would thereby suffer —

Let us then dear Friends continue to be united together,
and act as one body, strengthening and encouraging one an-

Address to Friends & others

nº 30

and endeavoring so to keep under the benign influence of the
Spirit of the Gospel, in the discharge of this and every other Christian
duty, that we may be enabled, availingly to ask for right ability
to perform every good work — in humble reliance upon an over-
-ruling Providence — remembering, that altho Paul may plant
and Apollos water, it is God who giveth the increase —

Andwhile thus engaged reverently to call the attention
of our own members to this important testimony, and to the
principle on which we have ever considered it to rest, we have
believed, that while slavery continues to exist, to a fearful extent, in
some portions of our beloved Country, and while in addition
to its other enormous evils, the internal traffic in slaves, con
-tinues to rend asunder the tenderest of human ties, it can never
cease to commend itself, as a subject of serious thoughtful
ness, to every benevolent Christian mind. And we would
affectionately invite the professors of other religious denomina
-tions, to give to the subject, that attentive consideration, which
its great and increasing importance would seem to demand.
We cherish no disposition to prescribe to them, in what way
their particular efforts to remove this, and other evils that a-
-bound in our Land, shall be directed; but we would in Chris-
-tian freedom, encourage them, to embrace every right opening,
for endeavoring, in the spirit of Gospel love, to persuade their
Brethren in religious profession, residing in the Slaveholding
States, seriously to examine this momentous question, in all its
various bearings — As it relates to themselves, their children, and their Country; we are persuaded they would
find (we have no doubt they often do find) a abundant cause for
serious meditation; but were they, in sincerity of heart, without
regard to self interest, and the maxims of a cruel policy, to enter
upon an enquiry into its consistency with the precepts and doctrines
of Him, who in the greatness of his love for a fallen world, gave
himself a ransom for all — how could they turn away from the con-
-viction — that to do justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly
with our God; to love our neighbors as ourselves, — to do unto
others as we would that they should do unto us — are duties of
universal Obligation — and that to claim property in their fellow
men, — to hold them in unconditional bondage, reaping the fruit
of their labor without any adequate return; and withholding, in great
measure, at least, the means of moral and religious instruction from
those who are equally with themselves, and with us, heirs of the promise
of Salvation by Christ, is wholly at variance with.

That dispensation which was ushered into the World with
"glory to God in the highest, and on Earth Peace and
the joyous anthem of
good will to men."

And

Friends to Slavery

1837
5mo. 30

And seeing these things in their true light, and remembering that He whom we profess to serve, and who has "made of one blood all nations of men, for to dwell on all the face of the Earth, is no respecter of persons — that He is a God of Justice as well as of Mercy, and hath declared, "For the oppression of the poor, for the sighing of the needy, I will arise saith the Lord." how could they refrain from turning to Him for strength to pursue the path of duty, that should thus be opened before them, — and from becoming at last preachers of Righteousness by their example, if the influence of example were all that they had it in their power to exert — And to this we have ardently desired they may be persuaded, in love unfeigned, and by every motive that can rightly influence the Christian mind — that the blessing of millions who are ready to perish, may come upon them —

We cannot doubt that there are among the Inhabitants of the States in which Slavery is now widely extended, those who are taking a thoughtful, sober view, of this highly interesting subject. We are fully aware that they are surrounded with difficulties of no ordinary magnitude. We sympathize with them in their peculiar trials. But we would, that they could be encouraged instead of looking too much at the difficulties that are presented to their minds — to turn to the gracious offers of assistance to all who rightly ask it, that abound throughout the sacred Volume — and to the animating hope that is set before all those who, in sincerity & singleness of heart, obey the Gospel —

In conclusion we cannot forbear repeating the very great solicitude we have felt, that the members of every professing Church may, under a deep sense of religious duty — and encouraged by the cheering declaration, "Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy" — commence in earnest the

Address to Friends and

the endeavor to clear their hands from all participation in the continuance of Slavery in our Land; and then we believe, that difficulties that may now seem to be insurmountable, would be made to disappear, and the System itself, through the Divine blessing upon their example and their labours, cease to be a reproach to us as a Nation.

* It may be satisfactory to many of our members, as well as to others, to be informed, that this interesting concern had engaged the attention of some of the meetings of Friends within the limits of New England Yearly Meeting, as early as the year 1716. In the 9th month of that year, the Monthly Meeting of Nantucket made a minute, expressing the "sense and judgment" of that meeting, that "it is not agreeable to Truth for Friends to purchase Slaves and keep them term of life" —

The Committee appointed to have one thousand Copies of a Letter written by our friend Benjamin Bates, Report that they have had that number printed, and that they are now ready for distribution —

The Committee appointed to prepare an Essay of a Memorial to the Legislature of New Hampshire, presented one, which after some alterations, being approved, is directed to be recorded, and signed by the Clerk on behalf of this Meeting; and William Jenkins and Arnold Congdon are appointed to forward the same, together with a suitable number of Copies of the Letter written by our friend Benjamin Bates, as early as may be convenient, as the Legislature is to commence its Session the ensuing week —

Memorial

To the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of New Hampshire,

The Representatives of the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England, residing in the States of Maine New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island and the Eastern parts of Connecticut, would Respectfully Represent, —

That they have noticed with deep concern that a Bill had recently been before the Legislature of that State, and stands referred to be acted upon at its next Session, purporting to be a revision of the Militia Law of the State of New Hampshire, in which Bill there is not any provision made for the exemption of persons conscientiously scrupulous of bearing the sword, or learning the art of war. We believe it is now generally well understood, that the Society of Friends have from their first rise, held, as they have been persuaded, a Christian

1837
5mo. 26

Christian Testimony against bearing Arms, Training, or being concerned in any way in learning or practising the art of War— believing if they would live conformably to the Doctrines and Precepts of the Gospel of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, they cannot use the outward Sword) that Christ, the Christians Lawgiver has commanded his followers, to do unto others, as they would others should do unto them;— that he has forbid returning evil for evil, but contrariwise, has commanded us to return good for evil— being fully persuaded, that the Law of retaliation; which was suffered for a time, was wholly abrogated by the coming of our Holy Redeemer, who is emphatically declared to be the Prince of peace—

Memorial

We apprehend that, much may not be now necessary to illustrate the Principles of Friends on the subject of War, on which they have predicated their uniform practice, more especially as these views have of latter time been more extensively spread, and their accordance with the Dispensation of the Gospel, more generally recognized— This being the case, we were led in the enquiry, why a Legislature, which had so long justly, not only acknowledged the principle, but protected the rights of Conscience in reference to learning the art of War, should now be induced to withdraw its fostering care, and instead thereof require of this class of their fellow citizens to perform services, which, althe restrained from rendering by the most solem apprehensions of religious obligations to God, should yet be made liable to suffer fines and forfeitures—

Your Memorialists would further remark,— that while the Society of Friends, have felt bound to demean themselves as peaceable subjects, under whatever form of Government they have lived, and when they could not actively comply with the Laws, they have passively submitted; still, they have ever considered it, their right, with other citizens, to solicit those in power for redress, whenever they have been made to suffer, in person or in estate on account of their religious Testimonies—

The success of the plain & simple remonstrances of Friends heretofore made to those who have had the power to redress, has encouraged your Petitioners to ask for continued protection, under the Laws of New Hampshire, in the exercise of their Conscientious scruples, in regard to War— the free exercise of which, they consider to be the right of every Christian——

1837 When we reflect on the past liberality and justice
5mo. 30 of the Legislature of New Hampshire in excusing
the members of the Society of Friends, from all Military
requisitions, and remember that we live in those days
Memorial of the Gospel, foretold by an Inspired Prophet, when
Swords shall be beaten into Plow-shares and Spears
into Pruning Hooks, when Nation shall not lift
up Sword against Nation, neither learn War any
more; we can but trust, that when this Bill shall be
again brought under their deliberation, that they will
be induced to legislate conformably with the 4th section
of their Bill of Rights, which declares "Among the
natural rights [of men] some are in their very nature inalien-
-able, because no equivalent can be given, or received for
them. Of this kind are the Rights of conscience"—
Signed by direction. On behalf of a Meeting of the
Representatives aforesaid, held at Providence the 30th/5th mo.
1837— by Thomas Howland clerk—

6mo. 10 At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Portsmouth
on Rhode Island 6th mo. 10th 1837— Present 28 members—

This Meeting, after having deliberated on Various subjects
pertaining to the concerns of the Society, conclude to adjourn
to the close of the Yearly Meeting; and the Clerk is directed
to lay the Records of this Meeting, for the past year, before our
ensuing Yearly Meeting—

Thomas Howland Clk

37 At the close of the Yearly Meeting— Met agreeably
mo. to adjournment— Present 27 Members—

Thomas Howland is appointed Clerk of this Meeting
for the ensuing year—

1837
6mo. It is concluded, that the stated times of holding this
Meeting, should be the same as last Year.

7mo.

At a Meting for Sufferings held at Provide
the 5th of 8 mo 1837

Present 22 members

6mo. 1837 Yearly Meting of Friends for New England
The following Friends having been Exposed by the Com
to which that subject was referd, were appointed to constitute
a Meting for Sufferings for the Year ensuing, & till another
appointment. viz. Rowland Greene, Thomas Rowland Benj
Minute Frothom, James Tucker, Rowland Bathuen Abr. Sherman
of Y Mg Stephen Jones, Estes Newhall, Walter Allen, Frances Taber, Wm
Cobb, Joshua Meader, Thomas C Anthony, John Warren, Matth
Purinton, John Brown, Stephen A Chase, Daniel Johnson
James N Fry, Benjamin Fry, Nicholas Longdon, John Osbo
Williams, Jenkins, Jonathan Dennis, Stephen Gould, David
Buffum, Abijah Chase, Caleb Nichols, Perez Peck, Wilm
Reynolds, Prince Gardner, Moses Parsons, Moses Starkey
Oliver Chase, Joseph C Metcalf, Isaac Nichols Thos Fry &
John C Mearler, Edward King, Arnold Longdon, George How
land, Nathan Pope, William Bassett, Seth Kelley, Yarmouth
Samuel Boyd Jabez, John D Lang - Moses H Beede, Samu
Taylor. Jr.

Salem & Vassalborough Quarterly Meetings having gi
their accounts to this Meeting introduced to our considera
the Subject of Memorializing Congress, for the abolitio
of Slavery in the District of Columbia, and for the prohi
bing of the internal Slave Trade as far as the General
Government possesses the Power — the subject claimed the
attention of the Meeting — and the further consideration of it
was referd to the Meeting for Sufferings."

'37 — 3mo —

"Our late beloved friend Moses Brown, who in the year 1789 was appointed to take charge of the Yearly Meetings Records, and other Books & Papers — having deceased in the 9th month last — they are placed for the year ensuing, under the care of the Meeting for Sufferings — and that Meeting is requested to Select a suitable place for their safe keeping — and to appoint some friend to have the particular care thereof, under such directions, as they may think necessary, until our next Meeting. —

From the Minutes of the Yearly Meeting —

Abr.m Shearman Jr. Clerk" —

Concerning Yearly Meeting Book & place

The aforegoing Extracts from the Minutes of our last Yearly Meeting were received — and the Subject of Memorializing Congress for the abolition of Slavery in the District of Columbia, has received the serious and deliberate consideration of this Meeting — but it not appearing that any step might be usefully taken at this time, the Subject is referred to our next Meeting. —

Concerning Memorial to Congress on the Subject of Slavery

The Subject referred to this Meeting concerning Books & Papers belonging to the Yearly Meeting — received the attention of this Meeting — and the appointed Stephen Gould, Arnold Congdon, John Osborn, Samuel Boyd, Tobey & William Jenkins, to examine the contents of the Chest, in which said Books & Papers are deposited, and present a Catalogue of them, to our next meeting — and likewise to propose a suitable place for the future safe keeping of said Books & Papers and some person to have the care of them —

Committee to examine Books &c

The proposition made at this time to erect a fire proof Building, for the deposit of such Books & Papers as belong to the Yearly Meeting, and for other purposes, is referred to the consideration of Abraham Shearman Jr. Matthew Purinton, John Meader, George Howland & Thomas Howland, to report to our next Meeting. —

Proposition for Building a Fire Proof

An Account was presented by Arnold Congdon for expenses incurred in forwarding the Memorial & Extracts to the Legislature of New Hamshire, amounting to five dollars, — The Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting is requested to pay said amount to Arnold Congdon —

Arnold Congdons Acct —

1837
8 mo

The Committee appointed to make provision for the accommodation of our last Yearly Meeting, report a Bill amounting to, one thousand one hundred and six dollars & 57/100 which being allowed by this Meeting, the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting, is requested to pay to William Reynolds the sum of five hundred & six dollars & 57/100 being the balance due said Committee —

Expenses of Y. Mg

The London General Epistle of the present year was received at this time, and read, and was to our satisfaction and comfort — Arnold Longdon & Samuel Boyd Tobey are appointed a Committee, to have 3000 Copies reprinted for circulation among our members — They are authorized to call on the Yearly Meetings Treasurer for the amount of Cost for printing —

London G Epistle

11 mo 4th

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence 4th of 11 mo 1837 — Present 17 members —

The Clerk being absent — Arnold Longdon is appointed for this time —

The Subject of the Slave Trade & Slavery referred

The Subject of Memorializing Congress for the abolition of Slavery and the Slave trade in the District of Columbia, having been seriously considered at this time, & way not appearing to open for it, it is concluded to refer the further consideration of it to our next Meeting —

Books & Papers referred

The Committee on the Subject of Books & papers belonging to the Yearly Meting, not being ready to report are continued to report to next Meeting —

Fire proof Building referred

The Committee on the Subject of erecting a fire proof Building for the safe keeping of Books &c not being ready to report, they are continued — to report to a future Meeting —

The Committee appointed to procure three thousand Copies of the London General Epistle reprinted, Report, that they have attended to that service —

Report on Epistles

A Minute from Dover Quarterly Meeting was received, by which it appears, that the Memorial addressed by this Meeting, to the Legislature of New Hampshire was presented to that Body — during its late session — It likewise appears that the Bill relative to the new Organization of the Militia did not pass into a Law —

1837 11 mo. The Subject of the annexation of the Territory of Texas to the United States of America, which is now agitated in some parts of our Country, coming under the consideration of this Meeting, and being fully united in our disapprobation of such a measure, in the apprehension of the hurtful consequencies which would follow it— it is concluded to appoint— Rowland Greene, Abraham Shearman Jr. William Jenkins, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John Meader, Thomas Howland, John Osborn, & Arnold Congdon, to prepare a Suitable Memorial to Congress on the subject and present to our next Meeting —

An Essay of a Communication to be addressed to the members of our Society was introduced and read, and the subject of it being weightily considered, and a feeling of unity having been generally expressed— it was concluded to refer it for further consideration, to Rowland Greene, Thomas Anthony, Peter Peck, Thomas Howland, John Meader, William Jenkins, Matthew Purinton, and Stephen Gould to report to our next Meeting —

Adjourned to meet at Providence on 3d day next before the first fifth day in next month, at 2 hour in the afternoon

Dec. 5th At a Meeting for sufferings held at Providence pursuant to adjournment, this 5th day of 12th month 1837 —

Present 12 members —

The Clerk being absent Arnold Congdon is appointed Clerk for this time —

Report & Comte The Committee appointed to prepare a Memorial to Congress on the Subject of the annexation of Texas, presented the following Essay, which was read— deliberately considered and approved, and directed to be signed on behalf of this Meeting by the Clerk — William Jenkins, Samuel B Tobey. & Arnold Congdon are appointed a Committee to forward a Copy to a Member of each House of Congress - to be presented to those bodies —

Memorial

Memorial to Congress To the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled — The Memorial of the Representatives of the Yearly Meeting of the Society of Friends for New England — Respectfully Sheweth — That under an apprehension that a proposition for the admission of Texas into the Union, with

in

1837
12 mo 5

Memorial to Congress

in some way be brought before Congress during the present Session, we believe it to be our duty, respectfully to address you, on this, as we deem it, momentous occasion —

There are many reasons that induce us to remonstrate against the adoption of this Proposition, but chiefly are we influenced thereto, from our well known religious views on the subjects of War and Slavery —

We fear that the extension of the limits of our Country, so as to include this large Territory, may involve us in strife with Nations with whom we are now at peace — and conscientiously do we deprecate any step on the part of our Government which shall probably bring upon us the guilt and miseries of War —

Nor less imperative do we feel the obligation to present our earnest remonstrance against a measure that is calculated to extend the system of Slavery in our land with all its attendant evils and wrong — For these and other causes that might be stated, we respectfully but solemnly petition you, to reject any Proposition for the annexation of Texas to the United States, from whatever source it may originate — —

We are sensible, that upon You as the Rulers of our common Country, devolve high responsibilities, and we crave that He who sustaineth, or destroyeth the Governments of men, may in his mercy grant you wisdom, to act in his fear, according to his Counsel; that thus you may be instrumental in Promoting the permanent prosperity & happiness of this Nation — —

Signed on behalf and by direction of a Meeting of the Representatives aforesaid held at Providence Rhode Island the 5th day of 12 mo 1837

By Thomas Rowland Clerk —

1838
1st mo

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence the 31st of 1st mo 1838 — Present 18 members — —

The Clerk being absent Arnold Congdon is appointed for this time — —

Memorial to Congress on Texas

The subject of memorializing Congress for the abolition of Slavery and the Slave trade in the District of Columbia coming again under consideration by reference from our last Meeting it is claimed our deliberate and solid consideration — and may not appearing to open to Provide therein at the present time the Subject is referred to our next Meeting — — —

1833
7 mo 31

The Committee on the Subject of Books & Papers belonging the Yearly Meeting, made the following Report Namely —

"The Committee appointed on the 8th month last, to examine the Contents of the Yearly Meetings Chest of Books & Papers Report, That they have attended to their appointment, and presented an Inventory of the Contents of said Chest, — Which Report is Signed by Stephen Gould & Samuel Boyd Tobey on behalf of the Committee — said Committee also propose that the Yearly Meeting Chest containing its Books & Papers, remain for the present, in the fire proof Store of Merry & Brown under the Care of William Jenkins — Which Report is accepted and ordered on file —

The Committee to whom was referred the Essay read at our last meeting, in the 11 mo 1837 presented it at this time, and it was again read, and weighty considered and approved — and believing that usefulness will result from its circulation among our Members, it was directed to be recorded, signed by the clerk on behalf of this Meeting — and John Meader Samuel Boyd Tobey William Jenkins & Arnold Congdon are appointed to procure five thousand Copies printed and circulated throughout the Yearly Meeting —

The Committee appointed to forward the Memorial to Congress, on the Subject of admitting Texas into the Union, inform that they have attended to that service —

It appearing that a Bill is now pending before the General Assembly of the State of Rhode Island in relation, to organizing and training of the Militia in that State, in which Bill, it is provided, that Friends shall be exempt from Military requisitions, only, on condition of paying annually a certain sum of money, and producing a Certificate of their Membership — William Jenkins, Rowland Greene, Stephen Gould, Samuel Boyd Tobey, Thomas Anthony, Arnold Congdon, John Meader, Oliver Cleave, David Buffum, John Osborn and Thomas Hazard are appointed to take the Subject into their careful consideration, and adopt such measures to prevent the passing of said Bill into a Law, as they may deem proper, either by petition — Remonstrance or the employment of legal Counsel* —

Salem Monthly Meeting presented an Account for repairs on our Meeting House in Boston, which is allowed — and the Yearly Meetings Treasurer is requested to pay the amount being $85 to William Baldwin Treasurer of Salem Monthly Meeting

1838
1st mo 31

An Epistle to the Members of the Society of Friends of New England Yearly Meeting—
From the Meeting for Sufferings—

We have been engaged at this time to address our dear friends in religious profession in Christian love, to the end, if it may be so, that we may be instrumental in stirring up the pure mind by way of remembrance, in calling your attention to the importance of our maintaining inviolate our Christian Principles and Testimonies.

It is a day when the enemy of man's happiness is active engaged in endeavoring to shake the faith, even of those who have heretofore been favored to stand firm in their several stations in the Church; and by transforming himself into the appearance of an Angel of Light, he has, we fear, in some instances, succeeded but too fully in accomplishing his purpose.

Epistle

While we mourn over the condition of those, wherever situated and ardently desire the Father of Mercies will be pleased not only to discover to them their situation, but enable them to escape from the snare in which they have become entangled; the injunction of our blessed Lord to his immediate followers to "watch", is brought home with application to us, and we are sensibly made to feel, that we are individually no longer safe than while engaged to "watch and pray, lest we enter into temptation". And although in view of cases wherein shipwreck has been made of faith, yet the comforting reflection arises, that the Truth itself is not affected thereby, but that the foundation standeth sure; and as we humbly seek for strength from Him who never "said unto the seed of Jacob, seek ye in vain", he will be graciously pleased to arise for our help, and mercifully extend to us the blessing of preservation.

While we are sensible there are no new Doctrines to introduce, no new truths to declare, our concern at this time is to bring renewedly, but briefly, before our dear friends, some of the distinguishing views of our religious society, which have always been most surely held by us, and to exhort to increased faithfulness in maintaining them.

As we peruse the Pages of the Old Testament, we find many rites and ceremonies instituted, which were intended as types and symbols of good things to come; to be done away, when in the fullness of time, Christ should come and fulfil the Law, and introduce and establish a more Spiritual Dispensation, a worship free from all Types and Shadows. But as the pride and presumption of Man has ever been prominent in his character, we find that after our Lord had ascended to the Glory which he had with the Father before the world was, notwithstanding his blessed precepts and example, carried out and confirmed as they were by his immediate followers, corruption soon crept into the Church; and a dark night of apostacy succeeded to the introduction of the glorious gospel day.

In process of time, light began again to dawn; various errors and abuses were pointed out by different reformers, and the Christian World was beginning to be aroused to a sense of the wickedness and darkness in which it was enveloped. About this time, George Fox, our revered predecessor in religious faith was born. Authentic documents fully shew, that at this period, although there were many individual exceptions in the various religious societies, there was, in the general, a high profession of religion, without a correspondent evidence of a change of heart or exhibition of the fruits of the Spirit. Many practices were tolerated in the Church which, being contrary both to the letter and the spirit of the Gospel, brought reproach upon the christian religion.

A want of a clear understanding of the important work of the Holy Spirit, in the conversion, regeneration and sanctification of man, appears generally to have prevailed among the body of professors; and not less indistinct and imperfect were their apprehensions and practical application of the blessed privilege true believers enjoy, in the teaching and guidance of the Spirit of Truth, and of the presence of this Spirit in the Church, as the source of the only right authority for the exercise of any Office in it.

George Fox was early led to see the pollutions of Christendom, and his spirit was grieved thereby; and finding no

Rest

Peace of mind from a conformity to the practices and views of any of the religious societies of his day, he was concerned to know for himself what was Truth; and in a state of deep humility and prostration of soul, the doctrines of our Lord and his Apostles, as contained in the Holy Scriptures, were mercifully opened to his understanding, through the enlightening influence of the Holy Spirit, or Light of Christ, inwardly manifested in his heart. Being thus taught of the Spirit, he was concerned to call others to the same blessed guide; and to turn their minds from outward Pastors to this word that was nigh them even in their hearts.—

This, then, was a primary concern of our early Friends. Acknowledging the Holy Scriptures to have been written by Divine Inspiration, and receiving them, as a declaration of the revealed will of God, of binding authority, they saw that the corruptions of the Church arose from neglecting to attend to the unfoldings of the Spirit of Truth, from which the Scriptures were derived, and which divine illumination is necessary to the right understanding of the doctrines and precepts contained in them.—They found this divine teaching fully recognized and set forth in Holy Writ, and they felt in their own experience its living efficacy.

It was given them to see that true Worship cannot be performed, nor prayer, praise or thanksgiving acceptably offered, but through the influence and assistance of the Holy Spirit; hence they rejected those forms of worship which are based on the will and contrivance of man, believing that in the description given of it by our Lord to the woman of Samaria is contained that which is essential in its performance: that "the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in Truth."

They believed that in order for the Soul to commune with its God, it must be drawn to him by a supernatural power, and that this Heavenly influence ought to be reverently sought and waited for on all occasions of a religious nature.— To this end, when they were assembled for divine worship, they sat down together in silence, not daring to engage in any vocal exercises, unless they believed they received an immediate, divine qualification for the service.—

When thus convened, their concern was to bring their minds into a state of humble dependent waiting, to know the will of the Great Head of the Church concerning them, looking unto the Lord alone for ability to worship him acceptably. ——

Such were the views of primitive Friends as to the nature & practical performance of true worship. — These views continue to be precious to us; we believe them to be consistent with the relation in which we stand to God, and consonant with the teachings of Christ. — And are there not many among us, who from living experience, can testify that when the soul is brought into this state of humble dependence and waiting before the Lord, he is often graciously pleased to visit with his life giving presence, enabling them to see and to feel their own condition and wants and awakening in their hearts feelings of thanksgiving and praise unto Him, for his manifold mercies to the Children of men through Jesus Christ our Lord, ministring to their several necessities, either immediately by his spirit, or by the instrumentality of those whom he may appoint and qualify for the service! and can they not livingly witness that at seasons, when thus gathered although a word may not be spoken, "heavenly incense" and solemnity are felt to flow, as from vessel to vessel, to their mutual strength and encouragement, being brought in degree to know the Lord feasts, and the power of his resurrection and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death.

Our early Friends believed it to be in accordance with the spiritual nature of the Gospel and with the practice of the primitive Christians to regard it as "the exclusive prerogative of the great Head of the Church himself to choose, to prepare and to ordain his own Ministers" — to "call whom he will call into his service, and to send by whom he will send." — They believed that all true Ministers must be "called of God as was Aaron," and as he alone giveth "mouth and wisdom" to his servants, they could not regard human learning as essential to the Ministry, but they were made sensible that an immediate and divine qualification is necessary, in order that preaching may be "in demonstration of the Spirit & of Power." — That every chosen minister must experience a measure of that anointing which teacheth all things, and through which an Apostle was enabled to testify, "the mean made a Minister according to the gift of the grace of God given unto him by the effectual working of his Power." — They believed that through the spiritual gifts still graciously dispensed by him who is head over all things unto his church

Church, his Servants are qualified, and thus only, to speak in his
name to the advancement of his blessed cause. These Gifts being
Christo the free gifts of the Holy Ghost, they said that the preaching of the
Gospel should be also free — that the injunction of our Lord was
to be practically observed, "freely ye have received, freely give" —

Another very distinguishing view of our predecessors, to which
we think it right now to allude, was that in relation to Bap-
tism and the Supper, and much opposition was made to them
on account of it. They believed, the one essential Baptism, which
all must be brought to know in order to become living members
of the Church of Christ, was that spoken of by the Apostle, when he
declares, "By one Spirit are we all baptised into one body, whether we
be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made
to drink into one spirit;" — that this was the Baptism of Christ, and to
which he, himself referred when he commanded his disciples to "teach
all nations, baptising them in [or into] the name of the Father, and of the
Son and of the Holy Ghost" and added, "Lo I am with you always, even
unto the end of the world;" — that the Supper of which the Christian is a
partaker, is that revealed by our Lord to his Servant John "Behold
I stand at the door and knock; if any man hear my voice and open
the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he
with me" that in order for eternal life we must come, through
living faith so to receive the Lord Jesus into our hearts as to "eat the
flesh of the ~~of the Son~~ of Man, and drink his Blood".

Friends believed that this Baptism and Supper, which are to be
spiritually witnessed and enjoyed, are essential, and not con-
nected with any outward rite or symbol; — that they are to be known
when all visible ceremonies are wanting, none of which can supply
their place. — They saw the danger of this one essential Baptism and
Supper, being lost sight of in an outward performance, and they were
concerned to invite all to come and participate in the substance, leav-
ing the shadow behind. They found nothing in the Commands
of our Lord or in the practice of the Apostles to lead them to believe
that Baptism, as a partaking of "the bread and wine" was obligatory
on the Christian Church; but that they considered these were placed on
the same ground with various other Ordinances, which, although in
condescension permitted to be retained for a time, were to "decrease" as the
minds of believers became more and more prepared to receive the
Gospel as a purely spiritual dispensation, and to let go the observance
of all the rituals of the Law and finally to be wholly disused in practice.

Such was the belief of our forefathers and such continues to be
ours in the main points; and with which we are concerned to be found

faithful in its maintenance, in holding up the one Baptism and Supper as alone essential, and so understanding the teaching in relation to it contained in the New Testament, we are very desirous of being careful of judging others in these particulars who may believe it right for them to observe an outward Baptism and Supper. To our own Master we must individually stand or fall — —

There are various other Testimonies which distinguish us as a People, and we believe it as incumbent on us now as it ever has been, to be found faithful in supporting them; for however nearly other Christian professors may approach to us, or how widely soever they may diverge from us, it is all important that we walk in that path which we believe in Divine Wisdom has been assigned to us to walk in —

While, in common with other bodies of Christians who profess to be building on Christ, the foundation of the Apostles and Prophets we have no other faith than that which was once delivered to the Saints, and no other hope than that of the Gospel as set forth in the Scripture declaration that "God so loved the World that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life" — while our dependence is thus placed on our Lord Jesus Christ, even him who came in the flesh and offered himself on Calvary's mount a propitiatory sacrifice for the sins of the whole World, we believe that in the important particulars that have now been brought into view, as well as in all others that distinguish us as a religious body, our forefathers were led by the Holy Spirit to a right understanding of the teachings of our Lord and his Apostles —

If we would be found faithfully following our forefathers as they followed Christ, we are convinced in believing that we must still be willing to be a separate people even as they were. And in consideration of our weakness and liability to entangle ourselves in the spirit of this world, & of the importance of our continuing steadfast in the support of our distinguishing views, especially that of the necessary, immediate qualification by the Holy Spirit for the performance of any religious duty, we would affectionately entreat all our dear friends who have experienced something of the work of divine Grace in the heart, to be careful how they place themselves in the way of temptation to let fall any of our Christian Testimonies, by forming associations for religious or moral purposes with those whose views and sentiments may, in divers particulars, essentially differ from ours as to the manner in which they are to be promoted, believing that it is our friends humble waiting on the counsel and fear of the Lord that they will experience preservation — —

& the gocal doctrine, as held by our forefathers & the divine & life influence of the Holy Spirit upon the mind of man to lead and guide into all truth, together with our faithfulness in the Spir-
Epistle -uality of divine worship, and the necessary qualification for the Christian Ministry, is we believe, of the most sacred character, and we earnestly crave that friends every where may be mercifully favored to apprehend and to adhere to it, in all its fulness. — If this gospel doctrine be called in question, or if our reverence for it become lessened from whatever cause, we are in great danger as individuals and as a people. But when it is fervently and thankfully believed in and received, its heavenly fruits are abundantly manifested, "love joy peace, long suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness and temperance," abound. Our love for our brethren individually increases our attachments to the church as a body is strengthened, and we become more and more cemented together as a compact building, of which Our Lord Jesus Christ is the foundation and corner stone.—

Now beloved friends of every class, permit us, in conclusion to exhort you, in the fear of him whom we profess to love and serve, to hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering, looking for his coming, who was crucified and risen Lord. Let nothing, we pray you, ever be able to separate us from the love of Christ; and let us remember that they only truly love him who keep his commandments, that obedience is essential to true discipleship. Let us too in simplicity unto him to know his will, and, through the teachings of his spirit, will our individual duties be made evident to us. Oh, friends beware of the spirit of the world, which is at enmity with the Spirit of God. Be not seduced from your allegiance to Christ by the flattery of man, in which snare the feet of many have been sadly entangled. Live in love one with another, so shall we invite the God of Love to be with us. Let us, dear friends, often seasons of retirement before the Lord, when in humbleness of soul, we may wait upon him, and thus experience our strength to be renewed. Let us be sober - let us increase in watchfulness and in zeal for the Truth. - Time and opportunity will soon have passed away. The testimonies that have been committed to us will be required at our hands, at that day which is fastening upon us - then every man's work will be tried. Oh! then let us put aside all vain speculations, and as little

Children, submit ourselves unto our Heavenly Parent, nothing to be clothed with the beautiful garment of humility, remembering it is the Guide in judgement, and the meek he will teach his way."

"Brethren farewell! The Grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Ghost, be with you all. Amen."

Signed by direction and on behalf of the Meeting for Sufferings of New England Yearly Meeting held at Providence the 31st day of 1st mo. 1838.

Thomas Haviland Clerk

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at East Greenwich 2d of 5th mo. 1838. Present

A Memorial of Hope Monthly Meeting, concerning our beloved friend Thomas Davis deceased, approved by Salem Quarterly Meeting, was received and read in this Meeting.

David Buffum, Perez Peck, William Reynolds, Edward Hicks, Moses Farnum, Stephen Gould, and Thomas Haviland are appointed a Committee to make the necessary arrangements for the accommodation of our ensuing Yearly Meeting — and the Treasurer of said Meeting is desired to furnish said Committee with the sum of six hundred dollars, to be applied to that purpose — and Rhode Island Monthly Meeting is requested to lend its aid as heretofore.

Subject Memorializing Congress on Slavery

The Subject of Memorializing Congress for the abolition of Slavery in the District of Columbia, and for prohibiting the Traffic in Slaves, was again brought under the serious consideration of this Meeting; — but while we deeply deplore the existence of these violations of the rights of Humanity, in a District under the immediate eye and Control of the Government, & consider them as Greatly reproachful to the Nation, we have not after endeavoring maturely to weigh the Subject, been led to believe, that any thing that we can do at this present time, under circumstances known to exist, will have a

3mo 2 a tendency to do away or lessen the sufferings of our cruelly oppressed fellow men, — and may has not opened for our proceeding therein — Still desiring that the Subject may continue to rest with weight upon the minds of Friends, and that they may be ready to embrace any right opening that may occur, for the promotion of this truly desirable Object —

Proposal to address Congress — (1) Proposition, to Memorialize the General Government on the contemplated removal of the Cherokee Nation or Tribe of Indians, having been brought before the consideration of this Meeting, and being cordially united with the Report, Abraham Shearman Jr. Samuel Boyce Tobey, Rowland Greene, William Jenkins & Thomas Howland to prepare an Essay of a Memorial, if way shall open for it and present to the adjournment of this Meeting —

Adjourned to meet at Providence, on sixth day next, the 4th instant, at the rising of the School Committee which is to meet on that day —

Adjourned

5mo 4 "5th month 4th, met according to adjournment —

Present 20 members —

The Committee appointed on the Subject of Memorializing Congress, in reference to the Cherokee Nation, presented the following, which being approved by this Meeting, is directed to be recorded, and Copies thereof, signed by the Clerk ~~to be~~ forwarded to the President, ~~Senate and~~ House of Representatives — And William Jenkins Arnold Congdon & Thomas Howland are appointed to see the several Copies forwarded —

Memorial from Weare — The Memorial received at our former sitting concerning our deceased Friend Thomas Wares, being again brought before this meeting, we think proper to submit the further consideration of it to John Meader, Rowland Greene, Thomas Anthony & Thomas Howland, who are requested to report to our next Meeting —

38
4
Memorial
Congress
Document
Stee

38/3:1

Memorial

To the President of the United States, and to the Senate and House of Representatives in Congress Assembled

The Memorial of the Representatives of the Yearly Meeting of the religious Society of Friends, residing in in the New England States — respectfully represents,

That being convened at the present time for the performance of duties devolved upon us by the Yearly Meeting aforesaid — Our minds have been impressively turned to the present situation of the Aborigines of this Country, the feeble remnants of once numerous and powerful Tribes; — and we have been particularly led to view with feelings of painful interest, the very unhappy situation of the Cherokee Nation, having noticed with deep concern the preparations that in progress for removing them from their homes and possessions;

Permit us then, under the influence of these feelings, to appeal to you by the considerations of humanity, and Justice to listen to their pleadings for protection, and not suffer them to be driven from their once peaceful homes, and the graves of their Ancestors, their cultivated fields, and all the comforts, which their partially civilized condition has taught them to enjoy, to a strange and wilderness land, where they must be subjected to numberless privations and difficulties, rendered doubly severe and aggravating, from the change which has been wrought in their habits of life by the laudable efforts of the white man. —

We entreat you to remember, that the rule of action given us by the Saviour of the world, is as applicable to Nations as to Individuals "Whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them." — As you are governed in your counsels by this Divine Command, we trust you will not allow this poor and unresisting people to be made to you in vain —

As it is righteousness that exalteth a Nation, we crave for the Rulers of our beloved Country, that they may not sanction any Proceedings which is not consonant with the revealed Will of Him, who regardeth the sighs of the poor and the cries of the needy; but that they may on all occasions interpose for the protection of the oppressed

Signed on behalf and by direction of said Meeting of the Representatives aforesaid

Thos. Howland Clerk —

1838
6 mo.

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Portsmouth 9th of 6mo. 1838 — Present 34 members —

The Clerk being absent — Abraham Shearman Jr. is appointed for this time — —

The Friends to whom was refered the Memorial of Ware Monthly Meeting concerning our late friend Thomas Davis deceased, presented the same with a few verbal alterations and omissions, and it being again read, as thus presented the clerk was directed to lay the same before the yearly Meeting, with the following Note, proposed by the committee

Testy T Davis

apprended thereto — viz —

As most of this Meeting were acquainted with this our dec'd friend & Brother, it appears but just to add to the foregoing Testimony that we have been witnesses, particularly at our Yearly Meetings to the Christian Simplicity and Humility, in which he appeared, honestly to labour for the discharge of his religious duties — which were to the satisfaction and comfort of his Friends — evincing that he was an Elder worthy of double honor — —

Comm. to forward memorial to Congress

The Friends named at our last meeting, to forward to the President of the United States, and to the two houses of Congress, the Memorial of this Meeting, concerning the Situation of the Cherokee Nation of Indians Report — their attention thereto — The Clerk is directed to lay the proceedings of this Meeting, before our ensuing Yearly Meeting — —

Adjourned to the Close of the Yearly Meeting — —

Thomas Howland Clerk —

6 mo.

At Meeting for Sufferings held at the close of the Yearly Meeting, agreeably to adjournment —

It appears by Minute from the Yearly Meeting, that the following Friends have been appointed to constitute a Meeting for Sufferings for the Year ensuing Viz't — Rowland Greene, John Warren, Abm Shearman Jr. Stephen Jones, Francis Taber, Wm Cobb Walter A. c., Thos Howland James Tucker, Rowland Rathbun, Esten Newhall, Matthew Purinton, John Brown, Stephen A Chase, James A Fry, Edward King, Benjamin Fry, Nicholas Congdon Thos Anthony, Joshua Wade, John Meader, John Osborn Wm Jenkins, Jonathan Dennis, David Buffum, Stephen Gould Abijah [illegible], Caleb Nichols, Perez Peck, Wm Reynolds, Prince Gardner, Daniel Johnson, Moses Tarkey, Moses Harmon, Joseph A Wetherby, Andrew Nichols, Thos Fry, Bolton, Arnold Congdon, George Howland

Members N.G. for Sufferings

6 mo. Nathan Hoge, Seth Kelly, Yarmouth, Samuel Boyd Toby, John D Lang, Hezekiah H Bates, Samuel Taylor Jr. Edmond Chase — twenty four of whom are now present —

Thomas Rowland is appointed Clerk for the ensuing Year —

Times of holding Meetings

It is concluded that our stated times of Meeting be as last year, namely — in the 8th and 11th months at Providence on the seventh day following the holding of Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting in those months, at the 9th hour in the Morning, and at the same place, in the 2d month at the third hour in the afternoon of the day on which Rhode Island Select Quarterly Meeting is held at that place, — At East Greenwich on the day of holding Rhode Island Select Quarterly Meeting at that place, in the fifth month, at the 3d hour in the afternoon, and at Portsmouth on Rhode Island, at the 3d hour in the afternoon of the day of holding the Select Yearly Meeting —

Committee to take charge of accommodations for Friends from other Yearly Meetings

David Burgess Edward Wing, Georg Rowland, Nicholas Congdon, Stephen Gould, Wm Jenkins & Stephen Chase are appointed to take the necessary care for the accommodation of Friends from other yearly Meetings who may visit this Yearly Meeting on a religious account

7 mo.

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence 4th of 8 mo. 1838 — Present 20 members —

Report of Committee for the accommodation of the Yearly Meeting

The Committee appointed to make Provision for the accommodation of our last Yearly Meeting, Reported a Bill of Expences amounting to $32 77/100 which being allowed, the balance due said Committee of $32 77/100 the Yearly Meeting's Treasurer is requested to pay to Stephen Gould —

Report Concerning General Epistle

Received the general Epistle from the Yearly Meeting of Friends held in London 6 mo. 1838 which being read was to our edification & comfort — and believing that usefulness will be derived from giving it more extensive circulation, we appoint Arnold Congdon and Samuel Boyd Tobey to procure three thousand Copies printed, and forwarded to our several Quarterly Meetings, to be circulated among our members, & the Committee are authorized to call on the Treasurer of the yearly Meeting for the amount of Expences that shall be incurred

11 mo.

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence 3 of 11 month 1838 — Present 15 Members —

The Clerk being Absent, Samuel Boyd Tobey is appointed Clerk for this time —

The

1838
11 mo

The Committee to cause to be printed and forwarded to the several Quarterly Meetings 3000 Copies of the London General Epistle, Report, having attended to that service —

A time was spent in the consideration of some subjects connected with the best welfare of the Society — and no further business presenting at this time, the Meeting satisfactorily concluded —

1839
2 mo 2

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence 6th day 2 month 1839 — Present 21 members —

The Clerk being absent Samuel Boyd Tobey is appointed Clerk for this time —

Report Comm on Militia Bill

The Committee appointed in the first month of last year to give attention to the subject of a Bill pending before the Legislature of Rhode Island at that time, which if passed into a Law would subject Friends to a fine on declining to perform Military requisitions, Report, That they have attended to their appointment, and that said Bill was brought before the late Session of the Legislature, and that the Section of the Bill, affecting our religious Society, was readily changed by the House of Representatives, so as to free Friends from any exactions on account of their declining to render Military services — The Bill, however, as thus amended, not having passed into a Law, and therefore may still require the attention of Friends, the same Committee, with the exception of our friend Stephen Gould deceased, and with the addition of Joseph Metcalf, are continued to have charge of the Subject.

Repo. for re print ing Discip.

The subject of furnishing a further supply of Copies of our Book of Discipline, for the use of our Meetings, and Members, having claimed our deliberate attention at this time, as well as at our last Meeting, we have believed it right for us, to propose to the consideration of our next Yearly Meeting the expediency of causing a new Edition of the Book to be printed either in its present form, or with such revision, if any, as the Yearly Meeting may deem proper —

from

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at East Greenwich the first of 5th month 1839 — Present 19 Members —

Testimy Swansey Mo. Mg vs. B.

A Testimony of Swansey Monthly Meeting concerning our Friend Daniel Brayton deceased, was forwarded to this Meeting, by Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting, which, after being deliberately considered, is approved and directed to be presented to to our next Yearly Meeting —

The Subject of publishing some of the Testimonies & Memorials concerning deceased Friends, now lodged in the Yearly Meeting Chest, having, some years past, been brought before the consideration of the Meeting for Sufferings, and some steps taken to prepare them, with a view to their being published, but not then being fully accomplished, we have thought proper at this time to revive the Subject — and the further consideration thereof is referred to a future Meeting —

The making of Provision for the accommodation of our ensuing Yearly Meeting, as for divers years past, coming under our consideration at this time — we appoint, David Buffum, William Reynolds, Joseph Metcalf, Edward Wing, & Thomas Anthony to make the necessary arrangement, and they are authorized to call on the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting for $ 600 dollars to be applied to said purpose — and Rhode Island Monthly Meeting is desired to lend its aid to provide such accommodation —

( ) a Meeting for Sufferings held at Portsmouth on Rhode Island the 15th of 4th mo. 1839

Present 24 members

A Minute by Uxbridge Monthly Meeting concerning our beloved friend Valentine Mott, approved by Uxbridge Quarterly Quarterly Meeting and forwarded to this Meeting, and after being read and considered and the propriety thereof was directed to be laid before the Yearly Meeting

Adjourned to meet again at the Town Park on this day week the 22nd instant at 2 O'Clock in the Afternoon

Eighteenth day, Met according to adjournment

Present 27 members —

On the 2nd month 1838 the attention of this Meeting was called to the consideration of a Pamphlet recently published entitled "Letter addressed to a Member of the Society of Friends" &c — The Meeting after deliberating on the subject thought meet to name a few friends more fully to examine the Work — Said Committee at a subsequent time made a written Report, which has been brought in to several sittings of this Meeting and the Pamphlet still continuing to be widely circulated, and the Author not having manifested any disposition to release the Society from the imputations made by him against it — the Meeting at this time has, after again deliberately considering the subject, viewed it a duty incumbent upon it in justice to our religious Society, to [illegible] minute and Testimony of Denial containing in a concise manner a just view of the Doctrines considered —

1839
6 mo.

The Committee named to examine a Work recently published which had claimed the attention of the Meeting, Report, That we find it to be a Pamphlet containing about forty pages, entitled, "Letter to a Member of the Society of Friends, in reply to objections against Joining Antislavery Societies"—

While we tenderly regard the feelings of the Author, we can but acknowledge, and that with deep regret, that on examing the work before us, that it contains many Charges and Insinuations against our religious Society, which we consider unjust; and when we reflect that the Writer is a Member of our Society, we apprehend it a duty incumbent upon us, briefly to lay some of the Expressions and views of the Author before the Meeting.— What encouragement the Writer had for publishing the Pamphlet, we are not able to say, but we observe in the last Paragraph of the Introduction, the following statement, "Th similar objections are frequently made, some of the author's friends, believing that a public notice of them is required, has requested him to submit his Work to the Press— This but increases the painful reflection, that there should be any member of the Society, who, would, after, deliberate consideration, encourage the publication of any Work, whatever might be its object, if upon its pages, the Principles and Character of the Society is unjustly aspersed.

While passing in review the sentiments of the Writer, we find on page ninth, some explanations of the principles of the Anti-Slavery Societies which he says "Are calculated, not merely to lop off the branches of the Corrupt Tree, but to overthrow and utterly destroy it, root and branch— he then enquires, how he shall carry these principles into practical operation." "Not surely by means of the Society of Friends in its present condition—for I contend that this Society has never avowed these principles to their full extent;"— On page tenth, after defining the measures of the Abolitionists, viz, "That of petitioning Congress for the abolition of Slavery in the District of Columbia" &, They will use the right of Speech and of the Press, and address arguments to the understandings & Consciences of their fellow Citizens, and endeavor to convince them of the duty of immediate emancipation; they will endeavor to secure to the coloured People an equality of Civil & Religious priviledges, by encouraging their moral & religious improvement and the removal of existing prejudices against them"— and then alledges, that these Principles and measures, "Have never been fully acknowledged and adopted by the Society of Friends", as "he shall more fully make appear hereafter." and concludes it is one of the sufficient reasons - "Why friends should have been more respected at the south than abolitionists"— And on page eleven in his Proposition of a diseased person— He represents Friends as fully acknowledging the correctness of a Course, which they deny

not Pursue" for fear of affecting their influence — And on divers subsequent pages he represents the Society of Friends as a body, compromising their Testimony against Slavery in order to preserve a favorable plea in the minds of the Slave-holders — and enquires, "Whether it is right to be governed in our actions by a desire to retain the favorable regard of wicked men" — and insinuating, that the reason why the Society is opposed to their members joining Anti Slavery Societies, and why they urge the propriety of Friends "helping by themselves", is because the "Natives of the Anti Slavery Societies are not respected by the World" — and alledges that Friends have done very little to promote emancipation beyond that of freeing those who had been held in bondage by members of the Society — and represents the Society of Friends as indulging a prejudice against the people of colour, that has not only subjected the "Society to the reproach of the world," but that an awful responsibility rests on them for their conduct towards this class from acting under the prevalence of this "unchristian feeling," "by which the tender seeking spirits of our coloured Brethren & Sisters have been deeply wounded" — And again calling into view the Society he admits that it has labored professedly to abolish Slavery "yet has no fixed principle of action in relation to this subject" —

Perhaps it may not be necessary to add much more in developing the character of the Pamphlet, saving to repeat our sincere regret, in observing that the whole tenor of the work, appears calculated to represent the Society of Friends before the Public, in a very unjust and incorrect point of view, both as it relates to the support of their Testimony against Slavery, and their practical endeavors to promote the freedom of the people of colour in our Land —

We apprehend that the writer of the Pamphlet, had not been careful to make himself fully acquainted with the history of past events, and of the various ways in which the Society has exerted its Christian concern, to convince the World of the iniquity of the System of Slavery in all its forms, not only giving freedom to all, who had been held by members of the Society, but enjoining in an equitable settlement with them for past services — the young to receive such an Education as becomes Christians, and others encouraged in a religious and virtuous life — remonstrating with State Legislatures, and the General Government — not only for

the

1824 their abolition of the Slave Trade, but frequently
6 mo pleading the cause of the Oppressed, and some times
successfully before those in Power, and often in their
individual capacity, honestly endeavoring, to make
way for the accomplishment of universal Emancipation,
and promptly lending their aid, when necessary, to protect
those who are already free in the enjoyment of this
blessing —

We may also simply remark, that we believe the
(Author has misapprehended the ground on which the
Society has, in any instance, exercised an advisary care
over its members, in reference to forming associations
with those not of our Society for the promotion of their Testi
monies, whether of Peace, Temperance or the abolition
of Slavery — believing as Friends have ever done, that
those Testimonies had their rise from the influence of the
Holy Spirit on the mind, they consider that the same
Divine qualification, to labor successfully in establishing
them in the minds of others, is to be waited for and relied
upon, which as a Society, they have ever deemed necessary
in promulgating their other Christian Testimonies — Hence
the Society has apprehended, that Friends, in forming
associations with those who do not recognize this prin
ciple, are in danger of being led off from a dependence on this
unerring Guide, and thus some of its most important
Testimonies be suffered to fall, and Individuals, and even
the Cause, intended to be promoted, suffer loss. —

Adjourned to the 2d of the Yearly Meeting

The Clerk is directed to lay the Proceedings of this Meeting for the
Year before the Yearly Meeting now sitting

Thos. Hanbury

Clerk of Yearly Meeting, met according to adjournment present 22 members —

The following Names of the Committee appointed to constitute a Meeting for Sufferings for the ensuing year was presented by the Clerk of the Yearly Meeting — Namely —

Rowland Greene	Joshua Meader	Joseph Metcalf
John Warren	John Osborn	Andrew Nichols
Francis Taber	William Jenkins	John Meader
Walter Allin	Jonathan Dennis	Arnold Congdon
Thomas Howland	David Buffum	George Howland
Estes Newhall	Abijah Chase	Nathan Pope
Matthew Purinton	James Tucker	Seth Kelly — yarm.te
Abrm. Shearman Jr.	Caleb Nichols	Samuel Boyd Jobey
John Brown	Peroz Peck	John D Lang
James N Fry	Prince Gardner	Moses H Bedee
Edward Wing	William Reynolds	Samuel Sayler Jr.
Benjamin Fry	Daniel Johnson	Edmond Chace
Nicholas Congdon	Moses Starkey	Allin Wing
Thomas Anthony	Moses Farnum	Samuel Boyce

Clerk appointed

Thomas Howland is appointed Clerk of this Meeting for the year ensuing —

It is concluded that the times of holding the Statted Meetings be as last year, except that to be held in 6th month of next year, which is to be holden on the 7th day on which the holding of the select Yearly Meeting is now agreed on, to be held at New Port, to meet at 5 the 5th hour in the afternoon, at New Port —

4

At a Meeting for Sufferings held Providence 3 of 9th mo. 1839 — Present 16 members —

The subject of examing the Testimonies and Memorials concerning deceased Friends, brought under the consideration of the Meeting for Sufferings in the fifth month last, being revived at this time, Thomas Anthony, Rowland Greene, John Meader, Thomas Howland, William Jenkins, Samuel Boyd, Jobey, & Moses H Bedee ~~are appointed~~ Abraham Shearman Jr. David Buffum and Samuel Boyce are appointed to inspect such Memorials as may be found in the Yearly Meetings Chest, and present such of them or such extracts from them, as they may consider expedient to lay before this meeting with a view to their publication —

Committee to inspect Memorials

The

1839
9 mo.

The Committee appointed to make provision for the accommodation of our last Yearly Meeting presented a Bill of Expenses amounting to $1290.[71/100] 2 mo. 4 day crediting for $600 dollars advanced by this Meeting The balance $690.[71/100] The Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting is requested to pay to Moses H. Bodley for the reimbursement to said Committee

11 mo. At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence the 9th of 11th mo. 1839

Present 17 members

The London general Epistle of the present year was received and read, at this time, to our edification and comfort, and that the salutary advices therein contained may be more extensively circulated, this Meeting has concluded to have three thousand Copies printed and for distribution among Friends, and Samuel B. Boyce Tobey is requested to have that number printed and forwarded to the several Quarterly Meetings and call on the Yearly Meetings Treasurer for the expenses incurred

London Epistle

The Meeting, besides the subjects above named, has had under its deliberations various matters pertaining to the best interest and welfare of our religious Society, which did not appear necessary to be inlaw on its minutes

1840
2 mo. 5

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence the 5th of 2 mo. 1840 Present twenty members

The Clerk being absent Samuel Boyd Tobey is appointed Clerk for this time

The Committee appointed to procure for Friends, and forward to the several Quarterly Meetings, 3000 Copies of the London General Epistle of 1839, Report having attended to the service

The Committee of this Meeting, continued under appointment by minute of 2 mo. last year, to give attention to the subject of a Bill under the consideration of the Legislature of the State of Rhode Island in relation to the Militia, now Report, That said Bill has been recently passed into a Law, and that by its provisions, Friends are exempted, as heretofore, from Military requisitions — And it appearing that a Bill upon the same subject is now pending before the Legislature of Massachusetts, Samuel Boyce, Moses H Beede Seth Hilly, Abraham Sharman Jr. George Howland, John D Lang, Edmond Chase, William Jenkins, Arnold Congdon, John Meader, Matthew Perintor & Samuel Boyd Jobey, are appointed to renew any attention that they may find necessary, in order to preserve to Friends that exemption from Military exactions, which has heretofore been extended by the Laws of that State —

The Committee appointed in the 8th mo. last on the subject of the Testimonies & Memorials of deceased friends now in the Yearly Meetings Chest, Report, That they have given some attention to their appointment — they are continued and desired to give further attention to the service and report to a future Meeting —

Having been introduced at this time, into a serious consideration of several subjects, which we believe to be of vital importance to the well being of our religious Society, and believing also, that benefit may result from differing among our Members and others, the concern thus claiming our attention, that our long established views and Principles in these respects may still be faithfully maintained by us — We appoint, Johm Meader, Rowland Greene, Moses H Beede, Daniel Buffum William Jenkins, Thomas Nothing, Samuel Hoag & Joseph Mosher, Jr. Thomas Hazard, John D Lang Abraham Sharman Jr. Samuel Howland and Samuel Boyce & Joseph Metcalf to have the same more fully into consideration, and if way opens for it, produce a future Meeting such essays and extracts from friends writings as they may think proper —

Adjourned to meet at Providence on the 3d day next mo. at the 2d hour in the afternoon of said day —

1840
3 mo.

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence by adjournment, 3d of 3 month 1840 —
Present 20 members —

Report of Committee on Church & Civil Government

The Committee appointed at our last meeting, presents an Essay on Church Government, which being read and deliberately considered, was fully united with & approved, and our Clerk is directed to sign the same on behalf of this Meeting — and Samuel Boyce, Samuel Bowly, David Buffum, Thomas Rowland Arnold Congdon, Abraham Shearman Jr. John Macy and William Jenkins, are appointed to cause 4000 Copies to be printed and forwarded to the Subordinate Meetings and Members of our Yearly Meeting —

Said Committee, also presented an Essay on Civil Government, which after being read, & carefully considered, was approved, and directed to be signed by the Clerk on behalf of this meeting — and the above named Committee, are requested to have 4000 copies of this Essay likewise printed and distributed among Friends and others —

The Essay on Civil Government is as follows

The Representatives of the Yearly Meeting of the Society of Friends for New England, being impressed with the importance of diffusing among their own members and in the Christian community, correct information on some points of our faith and practice, have believed it right for them at this time to issue this address, to the end that the principles that we have ever maintained in relation thereto, since our origin as a people, may be faithfully supported by us, and clearly understood by others.

It is a time of much excitement in civil and religious Society, and we are earnestly desirous that our members may individually seek to manifest on all occasions a meek and quiet spirit, ever demeaning themselves as good citizens, prompt in the support

of right order, and, in all things, adorning the doctrines we profess. This has, at all times, been the concern of our Society. Acknowledging God as the alone Supreme Ruler of the conscience, they have been ever ready cheerfully to submit to all the ordinances of men that did not conflict therewith, and to contribute to the support of well-ordered civil government.

We do indeed believe that war and fighting are contrary to the Divine Will and unlawful for us as Christians — and we cannot therefore, in any way, countenance or contribute to military operations.

We believe that, under the Government of the Prince of Peace, swords are to be beaten into ploughshares and spears into pruning-hooks, and men are to learn war no more. The nature of the Christian dispensation, in contrast with the fierce passions of man, is beautifully portrayed by the evangelical prophet: "Every battle of the warrior is with confused noise, and garments rolled in blood; but this shall be with burning and fuel of fire. For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder; and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The Mighty God, The Everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end." Isa IX: 5.6.7.

When our Saviour walked among men, he inculcated the principles of peace in clear and explicit language, and by his own shining example. "Ye have heard that it hath been said an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth; but I say unto you that ye resist not evil." Ye have heard that it hath been said, Thou shalt love thy neighbor and hate thy enemy; but I say unto you, love

1840 3d mo. your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them that despitefully use you and persecute you, that ye may be the children of your Father which is in Heaven: and in his own example, when he could have summoned twelve legions of angels to his rescue, he quietly submitted to his persecutors; and in the end, offered the intercession, "Father forgive them, for they know not what they do." — The apostle James in allusion to this subject, queries, "From whence come wars and fightings among you? Come they not hence, even of your lusts that war in your members?"

Believing this, that under the christian dispensation, which was ushered in with the annunciation of "Peace on earth, good will to men," we cannot in any way be engaged in war or contribute to its support, every faithful member of our body has felt bound conscientiously to abstain from all participation in it; — and, in our earlier existence as a people, before our principles were well understood, we were subjected to the spoiling of goods, imprisonment, and much suffering, on account of our religious scruples in this respect — but we dare not in the Divine sight do otherwise than stedfastly maintain our testimony, based as it is on the precepts of Him who was emphatically the Prince of Peace, and consonant with the doctrines and practice of his apostles and early followers.

Nor can we for conscience' sake agree to any commutation for military requisitions; for hereby should we be consenting to the justness and propriety of the exaction. And, in this we trust that those who view this subject differently from us, will discover no disposition to screen ourselves from onerous duties, but will do us the justice to believe, that it is for the

answer of a pure conscience unto God, which is dear
er to us than our natural lives. And for the sin-
cerity of our motives, we may appeal to the history of
our Society, in which no instance will be found
where a consistent member has borne arms or vol-
untarily paid a fine or tax as an equivalent; but
has chosen rather patiently to suffer whatever might
be inflicted upon him for the support of his relig-
ious belief.

Within the limits of New England, our scruples
as to bearing arms have generally received the favor-
able consideration of the different State Legislatures; and
we trust that our members will continue to act
so consistently with their christian profession as that
they may still be deemed worthy of the immunity
which has been heretofore extended.

But while we have thus felt bound uncompro-
misingly to maintain our belief of the peaceable
nature of the christian dispensation, we have ever
acknowledged the propriety and necessity of hu-
man government in conducting the affairs of
men; and have, since our origin from time to
time, declared our views in this respect, manifest-
ing our fidelity to whatever government an over-
ruling Providence might place us under. Nor
do we believe that in this way, our peaceable
principles are at all infringed upon.

We find in the New Testament clear and undeni-
able evidence that civil government was fully rec-
ognized by Christ and his apostles; and we have ever
considered it to be essential to the preservation of
good order and the promotion of the happiness of
man; - nor have we, as a Society, any unity with
the views of those who deny the necessity of human
governments.

The Apostle Peter was inspired of God

1840
3d mo.

not your master pay tribute?" he replied in the af-
firmative; and Christ upon the occasion wrought a
miracle to obtain money to pay for himself and the
apostle. Here the authority of civil governments
in exacting tribute ~~to practising tribute~~ is acknow-
ledged by our Lord, and practically complied with
and, in no instance, do we find that he refused to
conform to it, but expressly commanded it, "ren-
der unto Caesar the things that are Caesar's."

We may now introduce several injunctions
and conclusions of the apostles respecting governments
in their own words. "Let every soul be subject to the
higher powers; for there is no power but of God; the
powers that be are ordained of God; whosoever
therefore, resisteth the power, resisteth the ordinance
of God; for rulers are not a terror to good works
but to the evil. Wilt thou, then, not be afraid of
the power? do that which is good, and thou shalt
have praise of the same; for he is the minister of
God to thee for good. But if thou do that which
is evil, be afraid; for he beareth not the sword
in vain; for he is the minister of God, a revenger
to execute wrath upon him that doeth evil. Wher-
fore ye must needs be subject, not only for wrath,
but also for conscience' sake: For, for this cause
pay ye tribute also; for they are God's ministers
attending continually upon this very thing."
Rom. XIII: 1 to 6. "Submit yourselves to every ordi-
nance of man for the Lord's sake; whether it be
to the King as supreme, or unto governors, as
unto them that are sent by him for the punish-
ment of evil doers, and for the praise of them
that do well: For so is the will of God, that
with well-doing ye may put to silence the ig-
norance of foolish men." 1st Pet. II 13. 15.

"Put them in mind to be subject to principalities and powers, to obey magistrates, to be ready to every good work." Tit. III: 1. — The apostle acknowledges, and practically submits to the authority of human governments, when he declared unto Festus, that if he had "committed any thing worthy of death he refused not to die" and then appealed unto Caesar to be judged by him.

These citations from Holy Scripture, we think sufficiently establish the position that civil government was recognized and sustained by the author of Christianity and his apostles, and we now proceed to show that the Society of Friends has always acknowledged its authority and contributed to its support; and, to prove this, we shall quote from various writers of standard authority in the society. And, firstly, we adduce the testimony of George Fox on this point.

In his address to Charles II, from the prison in Worcester, he asserts "that the Spirit that leads people from all manner of sin and evil, is one with the magistrate's power and with the righteous law; for the law being added because of transgression, so the Spirit which leads out of transgression & the good Spirit of God and is one with the magistrates' in the higher power and owns it and them"; and he expressly declares that he and his Friends "are not against but stand for all good government."

He sometimes called upon the civil authority to interpose its sheltering power to protect his person, and in an Epistle to Friends in some of the West India Islands, when the governor had desired

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them to take a part in keeping up a watch to protect from incursions, and had granted them the privilege of doing so without carrying arms he enters into an argument to show the propriety of their complying; and enjoins them faithfully to perform this service, and report to the magistrates all cases of offence that they might discover in order that the offenders may be arrested in his course and punished, - and thus proceeds: "For rulers are not to be a terror to good workers, but to the evil; and wilt thou then not be afraid of the power? do that which is good and thou shalt have praise of the same for he is the minister of God to thee for good, for he should keep down the evil; but if thou doest that which is evil, be afraid, for he beareth not the sword* in vain; for he is the minister of God to revenge and execute wrath upon him that doeth evil. - So he is the revenger and executioner of wrath upon the evil doer, as God hath placed him - on him that steals, or kills, or bears false witness," &c. - And to that power that executes the revenge, and brings the sword upon the murderer, thief, false witness and other evil doers, we must be subject to that power and own that power, not only for wrath but for conscience's sake; which is for the punishment of evil doers, and the praise of them that do well. -

* The term sword is used by Friends frequently as emblematical of the power vested in the civil magistrate.

In his letter to Charles II, George Fox thus addresses him; "Thou canst not win this nation by sword or victory of war; but by the power of the Lord; now, if thou dost not live in it, thou wilt not prosper."

Robert Barclay, in his letter addressed to the ambassadors of the Christian States, assembled at Nimeguen, in the year 1677, to consult the peace of Christendom, exhorts them "not to be unwilling to hear one that appeared among them for the interest of Christ, his King and Master - not as if thereby he denied the just authority of sovereign princes or refused to acknowledge the subjection himself owes to his lawful prince and superior; or were anyways inclined to favor the dreams of such as, under the pretence of crying up King Jesus and the kingdom of Christ, either deny or seek to overturn all civil government; - nay, not at all, but I am one who do reverence and honor magistrates, and acknowledge subjection due unto them by their respective people in all things just and lawful; knowing that magistracy is an ordinance of God, and that magistrates are his ministers, who bear not the sword in vain."

When Edward Pyott, William Ames and George Fox, were imprisoned in the jail at Lancaster in 1656, on account of their religious profession, the first addressed a remonstrance to John Glyn, Chief Justice of England

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on behalf of himself and his companions, in which their deference to the authority of magistracy, as fully exhibited by their appealing to the law as "the one common guard or defence of property, liberty and life;" as being established for the protection of those rights "so just and equal," and which, as to the outward, are of "the highest importance to the well-being of man." He adds, "the law saith not for cause wherby to make the innocent suffer; but helpeth him to right who suffers wrong, relieveth the oppressed, and searcheth out the matter, whether that of which a man stands accused be so or no; seeking judgment and hastening righteousness."

Edward Burrough, a contemporary of Fox and an eminent minister in our Society when addressing Richard Cromwell, "the Protector of the Commonwealth," expressly declares that, as for magistracy, it was ordained of God to be a dread and terror and limit to evil doers, and to be a defence and praise to all that do well; to condemn the guilty and justify the guiltless," - and, in a book which he published in 1661, he says, that where any man's heresy do extend further than only against God and his own soul, even to outward wrongs and evils, or violence, or visible mischiefs committed to the injury of others, then he forbids not punishment to be inflicted upon the person and estate of such a man."

In a conversation between Charles II and Richard Hubberthorn, the respect of Friends for civil government is plainly declared. Question by the King. "How do you own magistrates or magistracy?" Answer.—Thus, we do own magistrates: whosoever is set up by God, whether King as supreme or any set in authority by him, who are for the punishment of evil doers and the praise of them that do well, such we shall submit unto, and assist in righteous and civil things, both by body and estate; and if any magistrates do that which is unrighteous, we must declare against it; only submit under it by a patient suffering, and not rebel against any by insurrections, plots and contrivances." To which the King replied, "That is enough."

Again, in an address to the King entitled, "The humble address of the people commonly called Quakers," the following language is used: O King, we do further declare, that God Almighty hath taught and engaged us to acknowledge and actually to obey magistrates as his ministers in all things not repugnant to his law and light in our consciences, which is certainly agreeable to the Holy Scriptures." &c.

On the restoration of peace, they addressed an acknowledgment to William III, over England &c. King, after this manner: "May it please the King, seeing the Most high God, who ruleth in the kingdoms of men, and appointeth over them whomsoever he will, hath, by his over-ruling power and providence, placed thee in dominion

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and dignity over these realms and by his Divine favor hath signally preserved and delivered them from many great and eminent dangers and graciously turned the calamity into the desired mercy of peace."

On the accession to the throne of Queen Anne the people called Quakers thought themselves no less obliged than others, to express to the Queen their condolence on account of the King's death, and to testify their affection and fidelity to her, and therefore drew up an address in which they declare "their sorrow and sense of great loss sustained in the death of their late King, William III, whom God made the instrument of much good to these nations," and assured the Queen of their loyalty to her government. "We sincerely declare that with the assistance of the grace of God, we will always, according to our christian duty, demonstrate our good affection toward and fidelity to the Queen and her government, and heartily pray that His wisdom may direct and His blessings be upon the Queen and her great councils to the suppressing of vice and immorality and the promoting of piety, peace and charity, to the glory of God and the benefit of these nations. May the King of Kings make thy reign long and prosperous to which temporal blessing we shall pray for thy eternal happiness."

How it was to our purpose, that we [illegible] from the writings of Friends, might be guilty

1840 3 mo. extended, but we think that sufficient has been adduced to show that they did not view civil government as an evil, but as an ordinance of God; nor an account of its penal administration, were they willing to throw off its salutary restraints on the contrary, they availed themselves of legal assistance for the redress of wrongs. — It is stated on unquestionable authority, that "during the height of the persecution which Friends suffered, when the prisons were crowded, and many illegally confined, it was found necessary to make frequent application to persons in authority, for the redress of grievances. Though Friends cheerfully endured the penalty of the laws, rather than violate their consciences, yet they promptly availed themselves of the means of relief which the illegality of the proceedings against them, offered. Many of these cases involved legal questions of intricacy and moment, requiring the advice of the most experienced and judicious Friends; and not unfrequently the judgment of able counsel was necessary to guard them from injury." The more effectually to obtain this end, certain Friends in the city of London were appointed, who met weekly," to whom the accounts of sufferings could be forwarded for examination and proper arrangement and on whom the duty of applications to the different branches of the Government might devolve as well as that of advising country meetings in difficult and important cases."

If we trace the history of the Society, we shall

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find that whenever a change in the ruling Sovereign of England has taken place, Friends have ever been ready to acknowledge the authority of the government, and to declare their fealty to the Throne. And, in our own country, where a change of government was effected by the war of the Revolution, we find Friends, on the restoration of peace, manifesting their allegiance to the government then established. Nor can we omit to refer to the example of William Penn, who, as governor of Pennsylvania in the administration of the laws, and in his intercourse and dealings with the natives, illustrated the truth, which we firmly believe, that civil government may be efficiently administered without the aid of military power - Moral influence being as we apprehend, that which mainly supports the fabric of civil order, its "great bulwarks resting on a firmer foundation than any outward visible means of defence."

It being then undeniable from what we have cited, and from abundant other testimony that might be given, that our forefathers in religious profession, and their successors to the present day have respected and supported civil government, as essential to the peace, the safety, and the happiness of communities, we would earnestly exhort every individual bearing our name to be careful that the specious views advanced by some at the present time, do not lead them

1840 5th mo. off from the substantial and practical ground which our Society has hitherto maintained in relation thereto.

May it be remembered by us as a warning, that among the first evidences of defection manifested by George Keith, who early departed from the faith of the Society, was the imbibing of "notions subversive of all social order which led him to conduct himself with great disrespect toward the civil authorities in the state; and rendered him dissatisfied also with those wholesome restraints which the Society in its church discipline enjoins on its members." Diary of Alexander Jaffray by John Barclay.

Believing that the minds of our early Friends were divinely illuminated to understand the teachings of Christ and his Apostles - that they were led to discern the truth and to walk in it - we cannot safely attempt to find for ourselves any other way. The truth is immutable it changeth not - it is the same yesterday, to day and forever - and hazardous, we are persuaded, will it be for him, who confiding in some supposed greater illumination which he has received ventures to call in question the plain, practical doctrines of Holy Scripture, and the practices of those who acted in conformity to them. Let us in humility and meekness, and with the help which may be graciously afforded us, seek to imitate the virtues and

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walk in the footsteps of those who, having fought the good fight and kept the faith, have finished their course, and, through adorable mercy, have been permitted to enter into everlasting rest.

Signed by direction and on behalf of the Meeting aforesaid, held at Providence the 3d of 3d Month 1840

Thomas Rowland, Clk

The Essay on Church Government is as follows. - To the Quarterly, Monthly and Preparative Meetings and individual members of New England Yearly Meeting of Friends.

It is, we trust, under a feeling of religious concern and in gospel love that we are engaged to address you, and to express our earnest desire for your preservation and growth in the unchangeable truth. - We would thankfully commemorate the name of Him who, for purposes of his wisdom, and by the fresh outpourings of his own Holy Spirit, first called and gathered us as a people, and who hath hitherto been pleased to preserve us, to Him be the praise.

But, dear friends, it is not for us to expect the continuance of this preservation and gracious help unless we abide faithful unto Him - looking unto Him our Leader, our Bishop, and adorable High Priest, who is head over all things to His Church.

It was we believe, by the direct, immediate visitations of His Spirit, and by a remarkable manifestation of His power, that our forefathers were led to take that spiritual view of the gospel dispensation, and to sustain it under much persecution, which we doubt not was designed by its author, and

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1840 embraced by his immediate followers, and the primi-
3d mo. tive believers; and it is only as we are made partak-
ers of the same Divine influence and abide un-
der it, as we ac Knowledge it as they ac Knowledg-
ed it as we yield unto it even as they did, that
we shall be walking faithfully in the footsteps of
those who were our predecessors and fathers in
the truth. And it is with a view to encourage in
faithful dedication and consistent walking as mem-
bers of our religious Society, that we are now con-
cerned briefly to review some of the measures that
were taken by our early Friends, under the gui-
dance, as we fully believe, of best Wisdom for the
maintenance of right order in the Church, in the es-
tablishment of our Christian Discipline, and in
the inculcation of that subordination which is due
from inferior to superior meetings, and from indi-
vidual members to the body.

From the history of our Society it appears that at
a very early period George Fox was actively enga-
ged to promote the establishment of men's and wo-
men's meetings for discipline, and the power and
authority in which he was concerned that they
should be maintained may be gathered from
the emphatic words often repeated in his Epis-
tles:- "Let all your men's and women's meet-
be held in the power of the Lord." And it should
be constantly remembered that this concern
of George Fox and other Friends for the introduc-
tion of a System of Church Discipline was the
cause of much disturbance to some who claimed
for themselves an extent of individual liberty
inconsistent with that subordination which is

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essential to the prosperity of the body. It is thus no
ticed in the Book of Discipline and advices of Lo
don Yearly Meeting: The persevering efforts of Geo.
Fox to establish a regular Discipline, a work in
which he was assisted by nearly all those who
had been instrumental in gathering the Society,
proved a great trial of spirits: to a large por
tion of the members the arrangements appear
have been quite satisfactory; there was, however
a considerable number of objectors - the self-willed
and lawless opposed it with vehemence; and it
must be admitted that not a few of a very dif
ferent class were drawn aside by specious arg
ments to oppose what was represented as an en
croachment upon individual and spiritual lib
erty. Certain it is, that a schism to some extent
took place on this occasion; which, however, there is
reason to believe, left the Society in a more healthy
state than it found it. The general meeting of 1677
issued so many declaration on the subject: Robert
Barclay wrote, upon this occasion, his "Anarchy of
the Ranters"; William Penn, his "Liberty Spiritual" an
Stephen Crisp, an excellent tract; all of them endea
oring to prove the necessity of established order and
discipline in the Church of Christ. This very
conflict, and the close examination to which it led
of the true limits of Church authority, tended, there
is reason to believe, under Divine direction to es
tablish the Discipline at once more surely and safe
ly throughout the Society than might otherwise have
been the case.

Thus was a system of order and government, in
conformity with the Spirit of Christianity and the
practice of the primitive Churches, established among

1840 3d mo. as in early times; and thus a field was opened for the exercise of the various gifts, by which the Church, the body of Christ, is edified. It is very observable in the history of our Society that the declension or revival of religious zeal has ever been accompanied by a corresponding relaxation or increase of care in the exercise of the Discipline."

Stephen Crisp thus describes the concern he early felt after his conversement and the state of mind he believed necessary in order to the right discharge of his duty to others:- "The more" says he "I came to persecute and feel the love of God and his good-ness to me, the more was I humbled and bowed in my mind to serve him, and to serve the Lord's people among whom I walked; and as the word of wisdom began to spring in me and the knowledge of God grew, so I became a counsellor of them that were tempted in like manner as I had been; yet was kept so low that I waited to receive counsel daily from God and from those that were over me in the Lord, and were in Christ before me, against whom I never rebelled nor was stubborn; but the more I was kept in subjection myself, the more I was enabled to help the weak and feeble ones."

In our weak and erring condition as men and creatures, "it must needs be that offences come," and among the ends aimed at in the institution of Discipline regulations, are the preservation of the individual members of the Society and the reformation and restoration of offenders, or when this is impracticable, a separation of them from the body; that thus the blessed Truth may be preserved from reproach. Our Lord has not left us without directions as to the course to be pursued with those who

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from the right way; and the Discipline of our Soci-
is designed to be, and we believe is, in conformity
to these divine instructions. If "says," her thy brother
shall trespass against thee, go and tell him his
fault between thee and him alone. If he shall hea
thee, thou hast gained thy brother. But if he will
not hear thee, then take with thee one or two mor
that in the mouth of two or three witnesses every
word may be established. And if he shall neglect
to hear them, tell it unto the Church; but if he ne
lect to hear the Church, let him be unto thee as
an heathen man and a publican." And the prom-
ise given to the Church in the performance of its du
ties is calculated to sustain every dependent mem-
ber. Again I say unto you that if two of you shal
agree on earth as touching any thing they shall ask
it shall be done for them of my Father who is in hea
en; for where two or three are gathered together
in my name, there am I in the midst of them."

In order to experience this divine blessing, it is
indispensably necessary that we should be really gath-
ered in the name and power of the Lord Jesus, whether
for the purpose of Worship, or for the transaction of
the affairs of the Church, and the necessity of the im-
mediate direction and presence of the one great Head
is essential to the right performance of the latter
as well as the former duty. And this doctrine has
always been religiously held by our Society. But
let us constantly bear in mind, it is not every na
that is a member of the Society who is really a mem
ber of the true Church. It is those only who have
submitted to and abide under his baptizing pow-
er who wait to know his putting forth, who hear
his voice and follow Him, who are truly of the

1840 4th mo. full of Christ, and qualified to sustain the discipline and execute the Discipline of His Church.

Among these there may be different degrees of experience, but each living member has his allotted station, and thus they grow up unto Him in all things which is the Head, even Christ; from whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love." And may we remember the body is constituted of these members, whether few or many, who manifest their obedience and conformity to Christ, the one eternal Head.

While by the salutary provisions of the Discipline our dear children are members of the Society and as such are desired and expected to attend our meetings for the transaction of the affairs of the Church, believing that they may prove to them seasons of instruction, yet may it be borne in mind it is only as they come to experience that change of heart which every living member must know that they can be qualified usefully to act in such meetings. And those of wholesome age, who have witnessed this blessed change, will manifest it by fruits of righteousness; they will not only be consistent in their daily walks before men, and in faithfully maintaining our christian testimonies, according to our Discipline, but they will give evidence of a meek, quiet and teachable Spirit, which will even listen to the reproofs of instruction and the counsel of friends. It is these that can hopefully seek to restore a brother agreeably to the apostolic injunction, Brethren if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye who are

1840 3d mo. Spiritual restore such an one in the Spirit of meekness considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted." This doctrine, those who walk conformably to the requirings of truth - who may justly be denominated Spiritual are to direct in the government of the Church, has ever been religiously acknowledged by Friends. It was never the view of the Church that all, of whatever religious growth or age, were equally entitled to influence and deference - nothing like the determining of questions by majorities has ever been admitted, or can at all be received, while we stand on the ancient foundation of the Society.

There are fathers and elders in the Church who "are worthy of double honor." The injunction of the apostle Peter should never be forgotten: Likewise ye younger submit yourselves unto the elder, yea, all of you be subject one to another and be clothed with humility." And the elders he exhorts to feed the flock of God, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint but willingly, not for filthy lucre but of a ready mind, neither as being lords over God's heritage but ensamples to the flock" - and adds the consolatory assurance that, "when the Chief Shepherd shall appear, they shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away."

Among the provisions of our Discipline which we would now revive, and especially to the consideration of our younger Friends, is that in relation to the care that is to be maintained with respect to the Ministry. While the solemn and important service of preaching the gospel is not to be exercised by any, except under the immediate anointing and direction of the Holy Ghost, neither is it to be judged of but by those who have been

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dispersed, in measure, into the same spirit and have
received a qualification therefor, from the same Source
A disposition to cavil and to criticise or in any way
to speak lightly of the Ministry is dangerous to him
that indulges it, as tending to self exaltation and to
the lessening of his regard for Sacred things, as well
as the Source from whence they spring. And it is to
preserve the right order and harmony of the Church,
that Elders are appointed, whose delegated duty it
is to judge in these matters, and to extend assistance
or caution as it is required; and let none, in
the forwardness of their spirits presume to assume
to themselves this office or attempt to exercise its
duties.

The following extracts from the writings of worthy
and experienced Friends, expressive of their concern
for the preservation of the Church, we deem pertinent
and instructive, and commend them to the care-
ful consideration of all. We commence with
some extracts from the advices of George Fox,
of whom William Penn testifies that, "he was a man
that God endowed with a clear and wonderful
depth, a discerner of others spirits, and very
much a master of his own." — Friends, live in
the power of the Lord God, and in his truth,
light and life, that by it you may all, with
one heart and mind, keep dominion and do
true judgment and justice, truth and righteous-
ness in all your men and women's meetings
without favor or affection, to relations, kindred
or acquaintances, or any respect of persons.
For if you do not do so, judgment will
come on you from the Lord, to put you down

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from your place. For the power of God, his leg and truth respects not any, but justice, truth righteousness and equity.

"Let mercy overshadow the judgment-seat, and let mercy be mixed with judgment. Take heed of foolish pity; and if you be not diligent against all profaneness, sin, iniquity and uncleanness, looseness and debauchery, and that which dishonoreth God, then you let those things come upon you which you should be above, and subdue and keep down, with righteousness and the truth and power of God.

And in all your men and women's meetings, let all things be done in love, which doth edify the body; and let nothing be done in strife and vain glory; but keep in the unity of the Spirit which is the bond of peace; and let all things be done in the wisdom of God, which is pure and gentle, from above - above the earthly, which is sensual and devilish." - 1668.

"For, dear Friends, let there be no strife in your meetings, nor vain janglings, nor disputings, but let all that tends to strife be ended out of your meetings, that they may be kept peaceable, so that you may be at peace among yourselves, and the God of peace and love may fill all your hearts; whose love is like the Church." - 1683.

Let all your meetings be preserved by the wisdom of God, in the unity of the Spirit, the bond of peace and in the fellowship of the Holy Ghost; - that being ordered by the pure, gentle, heavenly, peaceable wisdom, easy to be entreated, they may be no-

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ly and virtuous examples to all others. Let all be careful to speak shortly and pertinently to matters in a Christian spirit, and dispatch business quickly, and keep out of long debates and heats, and with the help of the Spirit of God keep that down which is breaking about questions and strife of words, and tends to parties and contentions. In the Church of God, no such custom is to be allowed. Let not more than one speak at a time, nor any in a furious way, but as the apostle saith, "Be swift to hear and slow to speak, and let it be in the grace which seasons all words."

And if any one should speak or talk any thing out of your Monthly or Quarterly Meetings, to the blemishing or defaming of any person, or of the Meeting, such are to be brought to judgment and condemnation; for it breaks the privilege and order of Christian Society in your meetings; so that all may be kept and preserved in the power of the Lord, and in His Spirit in love and unity." 1669.

And be it known unto all, we cast out none from among us; for if they go from the light, and Spirit and power in which our unity is, they cast out themselves. And it has been our way to admonish them, that they may come to that Spirit and light of God which they are gone from, and to come unto the unity again. For our fellowship stands in the light that the world hates, and in the Spirit which the world grieves, vexes and quenches; and if they will not hear our admonition as before, the light condemns them, and then the testimony of truth goes out against them."

"And dear friends, you are gathered in the

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power of the Lord God, which is the authority of your Men's and Women's meetings; in the power of the Lord Jesus, so that all things be well amongst you, and that all walk in the Truth, and as becometh the the gospel of Christ, and his glorious light and life. So that all may stand up for God's glory, and be valiant for his truth and grow up in it. Admonish, exhort and encourage such as are young and tender, to keep and preserve them in the way of life; and watch over one another for good."

Dear Friends, do all that you do in peace and love and in the fear of God, condescending one unto another in the simplicity and innocency of truth, and in the wisdome of God, that this may be every one's crown, that nothing may be done in strife to occasion words; for you are called to peace and holiness in which the Kingdom stands and to serve one another in love."

And in the Lord's power and Spirit meet together, and keep your meetings in the name of Jesus Christ who hath all power in heaven and earth given to him, that you may feel his living and divine presence among you, and in his pure, gentle, heavenly love and wisdom, may be valiant for his name and truth upon the earth. Be not ashamed of Christ your Teacher and Prophet, whom God hath raised up in his new covenant and testament, whom you are to hear, who feedeth his sheep and hath laid down his life for them, and giveth them life eternal and none is able to pluck them out of his hand. Neither be ashamed of your high Priest, who hath offered up himself for you and doth sanctify you.

1840 ä 20. who is a Priest made higher than the Heavens: Neither be ashamed of your Bishop, the Chief Shepherd of your Souls, to whom ye are now returned by his grace and truth, who oversees you with his Heavenly eye that ye do not go astray from God. In him let your faith stand, who is the author and finisher of it, the Lord Jesus Christ, who is your Sanctuary, in whom you have life, peace, rest and Salvation — who is the Amen."

That ancient, faithful minister of the gospel, Stephen Crisp, thus speaks of the causes pursued by some in his day when the Discipline was introduced and established among Friends: —

And when some exalted Spirits came to see unto what this work would tend, they took offence thereat, and sought to weaken the hands of faithful Friends in this good work, under pretence that all must be left to the witness of God; and if people did not find judgment in themselves, for what they did, they must not be judged by others, being themselves gone from truth's judgment and hardened; then they cried out oppression and imposition, and such like."

And hereupon were many again seduced and subverted, and drawn away from their steadfastness in the truth, and began to appear against the good order of the Lord's people, and to reflect upon the Godly care that lay upon them, with unhandsome and unsavory Speeches and writings until a secret root of bitterness and enmity got into several that had been convinced. In this sort the enemy wrought with great craft and subtlety to draw them from the blessed unity that is in Christ Jesus, the true Head of the true Church, and begat them into many jealou-

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-ies and groundless fears of an apostacy, while in the mean time he drew them so far to apostatize from their first love and first works, that they proceeded to expose Friends, both in particular and in general, to the reproach and scorn of the world as much as in them lay."

He proceeds to exhort Friends as follows:-

Let all beware of their own Spirits and natural tempers, and Keep in a gracious temper, then ye are fit for the service of the house of God, whose house ye are, as ye Keep upon the foundation that God hath laid, and he will build you up and teach you how to build up one another in him. As every member must feel life in himself, and all from one head, this life will not hurt itself in any, but be tender of the life in all; for by this one life of the word, ye were begotten, and by it ye are nourished and made to grow unto your several services in the Church of God. It is no man's learning or artificial acquirements; it is no man's riches or greatness in this world it is no man's eloquence and natural wisdom, that makes him fit the government in the Church of Christ: all his endowments must be seasoned with the heavenly Salt, and his Spirit subjected, and his gifts pass through the fire of God's altar, a Sacrifice to his praise and honour that so self may be crucified and baptized into death, and the gifts made use of in the power of the resurrection of the life of Jesus in him. When this great work is wrought in a man, then all his gifts and qualifications are sanctified, and made use of for the good of the body which is

the Church, and are as ornaments and jewels
a fitt Sense for the joy and comfort of all who
are partakers of the same divine fellowship of life,
in Christ Jesus our Lord. Thus many come
to be fitted and furnished to good works, which
are brought forth in their due Seasons, for ed-
ification and building up the weak, and for
repairing the decayed places, and also for defence
of them that are feeble, that hurtful things may
not come near them."

"It was a good Saying, he that fidgeth among
men, fidgeth for the Lord, and he will repay
it. Therefore let all be done as unto the Lord
and as ye are willing to answer it in his pres-
ence, and although some may, for a time, be
discontented thereat, yet in time, God shall clear
up your innocency as the Sun at noonday. They
that kick at sound judgment will find hard
work of it; they do but kick against that which
will prick them; and however such Strength
their wilfulness, and their abounding in their
own Sense, may hurt themselves, yet you will
be preserved and enjoy your peace and Satis-
faction in the discharge of your conscience
in the Sight of God." Daily abroad, Keep
upon your watch, Keep on your Spiritual ar-
mor, Keep your feet shod with the preparation
of the gospel of peace, and the God of peace
will be with you, and crown your endeav-
ors with good Success, to your joy and com
fort. He will bring his power over your adversaries
and oppressors, more and more; to which many shall
bow and bend in your Sight; and will bring
shame and confusion upon the rebellious, & he turn

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their hearts and stiffen their necks against the Lord and his Christ and Kingdom, which he will exalt in the earth notwithstanding all that Satan and his evil instruments can do to hinder the growth and progress of the blessed Truth; for of the increase of his government and peace of Christ, there shall be no end."

The following extracts from the writings of Robert Barclay, in which Church order and government are asserted, we deem appropriate to our present purpose. — "Some," says he, "are so great pretenders to inward motions and revelations of the Spirit, that there are no extravagances so wild, which they will not cloak with them; and so much are they for every one's following their own mind, as cause admission of no christian fellowship and communion, nor of that good order and discipline, which the Church of Christ never was nor can be without. This gives an open door to all libertinism, and brings great reproach to the christian faith." He alludes to the other extreme of receiving the Scriptures as the only means through which God's will is manifested, and declares, that it is and hath been the work of Friends to avoid both of these extremes, "and to be found in that even and good path of the primitive Church, where all were (no doubt) led and acted by the Holy Spirit; and might all have prophesied one by one; and yet there was a subjection of the prophets to the spirits of the prophets. There was an authority some had in the Church, and yet it was for edification and not for destruction; there was an obedience in the sons to such as were set over, and a being taught by them, and yet a knowing of the inward anointing, by which each individual was to be led into all truth. The work and testimony the Lord hath given us is to restore this again, and to set forth

1846 2 mo. in their right places, without causing them to de-
stroy one an other."

The ground of all schisms, devisions or rents in
the body is, when as any member assumes a n other
place than is allotted it; or being gone from the
life and unity of the body, and losing the sense of
it, lets in the murmurer, the eye that watches for
evil, and not in holy care over its fellow members;
and then, instead of coming down to judgment in
itself, will stand up and judge its fellow members,
yea, the whole body, or those whom God has set
in a more honorable and eminent place in the
body than itself. Such suffer not the word of ex-
hortation, and learn the reproofs of instruction,
(which are the way of life) in, isolation and oppres-
sion, and are not aware how far they are in
the things they condemn others for; while they
spare not to reprove and deride all their fellow
members; yet if they be but admonished them-
selves, they cry out as if their great charter of gospel
liberty were broken. How though such, and their
spirit by which they are acted, be sufficiently seen
and felt by thousands, whose hearts God has so es-
tablished, as they are out of danger of being entan-
gled in that snare; and who have power and strength
in themselves to judge that spirit, even in its most
subtle appearances; yet there are who cannot
so well withstand the subtlety and cunning
sincerity some such pretend to, though in mea-
sure they have a sight of them, and others that
cannot so rightly distinguish between the precious
and the vile; and some there are that, through
weakness and want of true discerning may be
deceived, and the simplicity in them be beguiled
for a season, as it is written, "with fair

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speeches and smooth words, they deceive the hearts of the simple."

He hath not gathered us to be as sheep without a head, that every one may run his own way, and one follow his own will, and so to be as a confused mass or chaos without any order; but he, even the Lord, hath also gathered and is gathering us, into the good order and discipline, and government of his own Son, the Lord Jesus Christ; therefore he that hath laid one upon some beyond others, who watch for the souls of their brethren as they that must give account."

He proceeds to describe a certain class that gave the Church much trouble in his day, who "not keeping low in their habitations, but being puffed up and giving way to the restless imaginations of their exalted and wandering minds, fall out with their brethren; cause divisions; begin to find fault with every thing, and look to others more than at home selves; with swelling words to talke of, and preach up a higher dispensation, while they are far from living up to the life and perfection of this present; like unto such who said, 'we will not have this man to rule over us; cry out of formality and apostacy because they are not followed in all things; and if they be reproved for their unruliness according to the good order of the Church of Christ, then they cry out, 'breach of liberty, oppression, persecution we will have none of your order and government; we are taught to follow the light in our consciences, and not the orders of men.'"

After fully establishing, from Scripture that "Christ did appoint and ordain that there should be order and government in the Church, and that any one refusing to hear the judgment

446 of the Church, or whole assembly, he doth thereby
3 mo. exclude himself, and shut out himself from being
a member, and is justly judged by his brethren
as an heathen and a publican." Robert Barclay proceeds:

"The Church, gathering or assembly of God's people,
has power to examine and call to account such
as appearing to be among them, or owning the same
faith with them, do transgress; and in case of their
refusing to hear or repent, to exclude them from their
fellowship; and that God hath a special regard
to the judgment and sense of his people thus
orderly proceeding, so as to hold such bound in
heaven, whom they bind on earth, and such
loosed in heaven, whom they loose on earth; and
if there should be any so unreasonable as to deny
it, I could prove it by invincible consequences; which
at present, as taking it for granted, I forbear to do.
If it be reckoned so great a crime to offend one
of the little ones, that it were better for him than so to do,
that a mill-stone were hanged about his neck,
and he were drowned in the depths of the sea; without
question, to offend and go away the whole
flock, must be more criminal, and must draw
after it a far deeper judgment."

And seeing in case of difference, the Lord hath
and doth and will reveal his will to his people;
and hath and doth raise up members of his
body, to whom he gives a discerning, and pow-
er, and authority, to instruct, reprove, yea, and
command, in some cases, those that are scattered
and low in their minds, keeping their meet-
ings and minding the Lord, and the interest and
good of his truth in the general, over all that

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out the murmurs; and the Spirit of God leads it to have unity, and concur with their brethren. But such as are lordly and high-minded, as inwardly vexed that any should lead or rule but themselves; and so it is the high thing in themselves that leads them to quarrel with others for taking so much upon them; pretending a liberty, not sinking down into the seed to be willing to be of no reputation for its sake. Such, rather than give up their own wills, will study to make rents and divisions, not sparing the flock, but frustrating the reputation and honor of the truth even to the world." After various Scripture quotations, he cites II Thess. III: 4 - "And we have confidence in the Lord touching you, that ye both do, and will do the things which we command you" verse 6: "Now we command you brethren, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye withdraw yourselves from every brother that walketh disorderly, and not after the tradition which he received of us." What more positive than this? And yet the apostle was not happy in peace. And yet further, verse 14: "And if any man obey not our word by this epistle, note that man and have no company with him, that he may be ashamed." Thus, Heb. XIII, 7: Remember them which have the rule over you, who have spoken unto you the word of God; whose faith follow, considering the end of their conversation. verse 17: "Obey them that have the rule over you and submit yourselves; for they watch for your souls as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy and not with grief.

for that is unprofitable for you."

I might at length enlarge (condemns Barclay), & needful upon these passages, any of which is sufficient to prove the matter in hand, but that which is said may satisfy such as are not wilfully blind and obstinate. For there can be nothing more plain from these testimonies, than that the ancient apostles and primitive Christians practised order and government in the Church; that some did appoint and ordain certain things, condemn and approve certain practices, as well as doctrines by the Spirit of God; that there lay an obligation upon certain others, in point of duty to obey and submit: that this was no encroachment nor imposition ~~imposition~~ upon their Christian liberty, nor any ways contradictory to their being inwardly and immediately led by the Spirit of God in their hearts; and lastly, that such as are in the true feeling and sense, will find it in their places to be one, and obey the Church of Christ in such like cases; and that such it is, as have lost their sense and feeling of the life of the body, that dissent and are disobedient, under the false pretence of Liberty."

Robert Barclay, in the course of the instructive work from which we are quoting, all of which may be profitably read, fails not to condemn such as claiming the privilege of immediate revelation, say, "That they being moved to do such and such things, ~~Contrary~~ Through to the mind and sense of the brethren, are not to be judged for it. (They) adding, "why may it not be that God hath moved them to it? Now, if this be a sufficient reason (says he) for them to suppose as to one or two, I say without absurdity suppose it to be with the body." He declares, "that ordinarily God maketh

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in the communicating of his will, under his gra
employed such whom he had made use of in the gath
ing of his Church, and in feeding and watching o
them, though not excluding others: and goes on to
say, "And indeed I mind not where under the Gos
Christ hath used any other method; but that he a
ways, in revealing his will, hath made use of such
as he himself had before appointed elders and off
cers in his church; though it be far from us to lim
the Lord, so as to exclude any from this privilege
nor yet, on the other hand, will the possibility lie
of the a sufficient warrant to allow every observ
member to stand up and offer to rule, judge and
condemn the whole body; nor yet will it without cause
that such an one's message be scandalized and called
in question, unless it have very great evidence, and
be bottomed upon some very mighty and solid foun
dation."

From William Penn's "Brief Examination and
State of Liberty Spiritual," we make the following
extracts. He commences: "Dear Friends and Brethre
it hath of long time rested with some pressure upon my
spirit for Zion's sake and the peace of Jerusalem, to
write something of the nature of true Spiritual Liberty.
Liberty, one of the most glorious words and things
in the world, but little understood and frequently a
bused by many. I beseech Almighty God to pre-
serve you, his people, in the right Knowledge and
use of that Liberty which Jesus Christ, the captain of
our Salvation, hath purchased for us and is redeeming
into." "He queries but must I conform to things when
in I can receive them or not? Ought I not to be
kept in the grace and Spirit of God in my own fac

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Friend, to fully answer and say: "It is a dangerous principle and pernicious to true religion, and, which is worse, it is the root of Quakerism to assert that nothing is a duty incumbent upon thee, but what thou art perfectly assured is thy duty; for the sound conscience pleads his liberty against all duty, the dark conscience is here unconcerned, the dead conscience is here unconcerned. As to the second part of the question - "Ought I not to be left to the grace of God in my own heart!" he answers - "That is of all things the most desirable, since they are well left; what are they left, for there is no fear of want of unity; where all are left with the one Spirit of Truth, they must be of one mind, they cannot be otherwise; that to plead this against unity, is to abuse the very plea, and to commit the greatest contradiction to that very doctrine of scripture, viz: "That all should be guided by the grace and Spirit of God in their selves," for the end of that doctrine is certainty, "They shall all know me saith the Lord, from the least to the greatest, and I will give them an heart." &c. Therefore I must say to thee, Friend, what if thou will not be left with the grace of God and with his Spirit in thyself, nor wait for his mind, nor be watchful to its revelations, nor humble and quiet, till thou hast received such necessary manifestations; but pleadest against the counsel of the Spirit of the Lord in other faithful persons, under the pretence of being left to his Spirit in thyself; by which means, thou opposest the Spirit to the Spirit, and pleadest for disunity under the name of liberty."

[illegible] to be obeyed through an other as well as in one's self; and this to appear to you the [illegible] frame of mind that receives and answers the mind of the

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Spirit of the Lord in a man's self, will receive
leave unity with the mind of the same Spirit in
an other; and the reason is plain; because the
self evidencing power and virtue that ariseth from
the measure of the Spirit of Truth in one's self, and
that convinceth a man in his own heart, doth al
so attend the discovery of the mind of the same
Spirit when delivered by an other; for the words
of the "second Adam, the quickening Spirit," throu
an other are Spirit and life, as well as in thy
own particular; this is discerned by the Spirit-
ual man that judgeth all things, although the car
nal man pleadeth being left to his freedom, and
it may be, talks of being left to the Spirit in his in
self too; the better to escape the sense and judgment
of the Spiritual man. It is my earnest desire that
all that have any knowledge of the Lord, would
have a tender care how they use that plea a-
gainst their faithful brethren, that God put into
their mouths against the persecuting priests and hire
lings of the world, namely, I must mind the Spirit
of God in myself; for though it be a great truth
that all are to be left thereunto, yet it is as true
that he whose soul is left with the Spirit of truth
in himself, differs not from his brethren that are
in the same Spirit, and as true it is that those
who err from the Spirit of Truth, may plead being
left to the Spirit in themselves, against the mo-
tion and command of the Spirit through an other
where it pleaseth not his or her high mind and
perverse will; for a saying may be true or false ac-
cording to the subject matter it is spoken upon.

1846 2 mo. or applied to; we own the assertion - we deny the application - Here lies the snare."

Query - "But though this be true, which hath been alleged for heavenly concord, yet what if I do not presently see that service in a thing that the rest of my brethren agree in? In this case what is my duty and theirs?

Answer - It is thy duty to wait upon God in silence and patience, out of all fleshly consultations; and as thou abidest in the simplicity of the truth, thou wilt receive an understanding with the rest of thy brethren about the thing doubted. And it is their duty, whilst thou behavest thyself in meekness and humility, to bear with thee, and carry themselves tenderly and lovingly towards thee; but if, on the contrary thou disturbest their godly care and practice and grow'st contentious and exaltest thy judgment against them, they have power from God to exhort, admonish and reprove thee; and (if thou persevere) there-in) in his name to refuse any further fellowship with thee, till thou repentest of thy evil."

A little further on, William Penn remarks: "Thus I affirm from the understanding I have received from God, not only that the enemy is at work to scatter the minds of Friends by that loose plea, 'What hast thou to do with me? Leave me to my freedom and the grace of God in myself;' and the like: but this proposition and expression as now understood and alleged, is a deviation from, and a perversion of the ancient principle of Truth. After reasoning closely on the imperfection of an

1846 3d mo. individuals urging the measure of his own light to justify him in courses and practices not approved by Friends, he goes on to say: This is that very rock both professors and profane would long since have run us upon, namely, That a way is hereby opened to all the worlds liberties, to plead the light within for their excesses; which indeed grieves the Spirit of God, and was severely judged by our Friends in the beginning, and is still reproved by them that keep their habitations though some are become as wandering stars, through their own pride, and the prevalency of the hour of temptation that hath overtaken them; whereas, had they kept in the channel of love and life, in the ark and order of the celestial power, they had shined as fixed stars in the firmament of God forever. And from the deep sense that I have of the working of the enemy of Zion's peace, to rend and divide the heritage of God, who under the pretence of crying down man, forms and prescriptions, is crying down the heavenly Man, Christ Jesus, His blessed order and government, which He hath brought forth, by His own revelation and power through his faithful witnesses, Him I further testify, that the enemy by these fair pretences, strikes at the godly care and travail that dwell upon the spirits of many faithful brethren, that all things might be preserved sweet, comely, virtuous and of good report in the Church of God."

And the Lord God of Heaven and Earth, that hath sent his son Christ Jesus, a light into our

1841 3d mo. hearts and consciences to whose search and judgment all ought to (and must) bring their deeds, and render up their accounts, hearth holy record, that for this end hath he moved upon the spirits of his servants, and for this good end only, have his servants go-en forth, recommended and put in practice, those things that are now in godly use among his people, whether in this or other nations, relating to mens and womens meetings, and their discipline and weighty services. And further, in the fear of the Almighty God, I shall add, that heavenly peace and prosperity dwell with those who are found in a holy and zealous practice of them; wherefore I warn all, that they take heed of a slighting and obstinate mind, and that they have a care how they give way to the entry of some falsely entitled, Liberty of conscience against imposition; for the end thereof is to lead back again, and give ease to the carnal mind, which, at last, will bring death again upon the soul to God, and the living society of his children."

From an Epistle written by that experienced and worthy elder in the Church, Joseph Pike, we make the following pertinent extract: "There are, says he, "and always will be, different degrees of growth in the members of the Church of Christ; yet as all are growing in truth, and drawing one way, and aiming at the same thing, namely the honor of the Lord and prosperity of his holy Truth, there will be a general condescension and submission to one an other; but more es-

1840 2d mo. peciälly to godly elders and overseers; how the stro. and Self-will of man is Kept out; and the unity of the Spirit in an heavenly harmony maintained in thos meetings, as well as among the whole body or Church of Christ."

We might continue our quotations from the writings of Friends much further; all showing the propriety and necessity of subordination and government in conducting the affairs of the Church, but we will conclude them by a paragraph from the writings of our friend John Griffith:

"Some have a right to apprehend such a Self-sufficiency as to be independent of other members. "It likewise appears that every member entered as such, by his or her voluntary consent, is strictly bound to Keep and maintain the established rules of that body: the breach of which, not only renders him or her guilty in God's sight, but also accountable to the body. It also behooves this body immediately upon the transgression of its rules and orders to exert itself in dealing with the transgressors, and to administer sound judgment in order to restore them; or in failure of success in that to disown or refuse to have unity with such; and to let the world know they are not of their body.

"And now, beloved Friends, in conclusion, we commend the advices that we have recited to your serious attention, and solid consideration. May they be received by you in love and be carefully remembered, and prove as a caution to the inexperienced and self-con

1840 3d mo. ...sident, an incentive to the returning and timid, and a strength and encouragement to those who, under a feeling of religious duty, are concerned to contend for the faith once delivered to the Saints and for the order of the Gospel. May the word of the Lord, through the mouths of his prophets, be received by us all for our good. "Stand ye in the ways and see, and ask for the old paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls." Jer. VI: 16

Signed on behalf and by direction of the Meeting aforesaid, held in Providence, the 3d of 3d month, 1840

Thomas Rowland, Clk

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at East Greenwich the 6th of 5th month 1840— Present 19 members —

The Clerk being absent in consequence of ill health Thomas Boyd Jeffrey is appointed Clerk at this time —

The Committee to attend to the subject of a military bill pending before the Legislature of Massachusetts appointed in the 2d month last report that the bill then under consideration did not pass into a Law but that Friends by the Laws now in force in that State are exempted from military services as heretofore —

The Committee on the subject of testimonies and Memorials report that they have given further attention to their appointment but are not yet prepared to bring any before the consideration of this Meeting with a view to their publication — they are continued and desired to attend to the service and report to a future meeting —

The Committee to cause to be printed and distributed 4000 of each of the documents issued at our last meeting report that they have attended to their appointment and that the documents have been printed and distributed as directed by this Meeting —

Arrangement for Y. Mtg.

The subject of making provision for the accommodation of our ensuing Yearly Meeting coming before us we appoint William Reynolds, Joseph Metcalf, Edward Hicks, David Buffum, Edmond Chace and Moses H. Beede to make the necessary arrangements and they are authorized to call on the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting for $600.– to be appropriated to this purpose – and Rhode Island Monthly Meeting is requested to render its assistance as may be found necessary and the Clerk is directed to furnish each Monthly Meeting with a copy of this Minute –

Documents forwarded to Mtgs for Sufferings

The Clerk is directed to furnish a copy of each of the documents issued by this Meeting on Church Government and Civil Government to the several Meetings for Sufferings of the Yearly Meetings in correspondence with our Yearly Meeting

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Newport the 13th of 6th month 1840 – Present 34 members –

The Clerk on account of ill health being absent Thomas Boyd Tobey is appointed Clerk at this time –

The Clerk is directed to lay the Records of this Meeting for the past year before the Yearly Meeting –

Adjourned to the close of the Yearly Meeting –

Thomas Boyd Tobey Clerk at this time

1840 6 mo.

At a Meeting for Sufferings held by adjournment at the close of the Yearly Meeting 6th Month 19th 1840—

Present 33 members—

We appoint Samuel Boyd Jolley Clerk of this Meeting for the ensuing year—

Saml B. Jolley appointed Clerk

It is concluded that the stated sittings of this Meeting shall be at the same times and places as last year - viz. at Providence in the 8th and 11th months at the 9th hour in the morning on the seventh day of the week of holding Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting and at the same place in the 2nd month at the 3 hour in the afternoon of the day of holding Rhode Island Select Quarterly Meeting — at East Greenwich in the 5th month on the day of holding the Select Quarterly Meeting at that place at the 3 hour in the afternoon - and at Newport on seventh day at the 5th hour in the afternoon, being the day on which the Select Yearly Meeting is held—

Time & place of holding

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence the 8th of 8th month 1840— Present 18 members—

The Committee on Testimonies and Memorials report their continued care in relation to them — They are desired still to attend to the service and report to a future meeting—

Expenses of Yearly Meeting ordered

The Committee to provide for the accommodation of the Yearly Meeting presented their bills for the expenses incurred by them amounting to $984 72/100 - Crediting for the sum directed by this Meeting to be paid them by the Yearly Meeting's Treasurer $600 leaving a balance due of $384 72/100 - which the Yearly Meeting's Treasurer is requested to pay to the Committee—

Samuel Boyd on behalf of the Treasurer of Salem Mo: Meeting presented a bill of Freeman Peery for the care of Boston Meeting house for two years ending 7th mo: 1st 1840 amounting to $42 62/100 - which the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting is requested to pay to Samuel—

The following extract from the Minutes of the Yearly Meeting was laid before us viz.

"At our Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England held in Rhode Island in the 6th month 1840 - The proposition from the Meeting for Sufferings for re-printing the Book of Discipline, either in its present form, or with such revision if any, as this Meeting might direct was introduced to our consideration by the reading of the minute of last

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6mo

year on that subject — May also not often in the minds of Friends, for entering upon a revision at the present time but Canning more fully than we have heretofore done the great want of copies of the Discipline in some of our more remote meetings it was concluded that a small edition be printed under the direction and care of the Meeting for Sufferings, to consist of such number of copies as in their judgment may be sufficient to supply these and other deficiencies that may be found to exist, and for leaving on hand a suitable number for future exigencies —

And said Meeting was authorized and requested to cause to be inserted under their appropriate heads, all the conclusions of this Meeting, that have been directed for insertion, since the Book was last printed —

Also to take such measures for ascertaining the wants of Meetings, and for supplying them, when the work is completed, as they may deem proper —

And the Clerk was directed to lay a copy of this Minute before said Meeting —

From the Minutes of the Yearly Meeting

Abm Shearman Jun Clerk"

Com.te print Discipline

Whereupon we appoint Abraham Shearman J.r, George Howland, Arnold Congdon, Thomas Howland, Samuel Boyce and Samuel Boyd they to cause an edition of 400 copies of our Book of Disciplines to be printed — and they are requested to ascertain the wants of Meetings and supply them according to the direction of the Yearly Meeting —

London Gen.l Epistle to be printed

The London General Epistle for 1840 was received and read at this time — and is to our satisfaction and comfort — and in order that its salutary contents may be spread more generally before the members of our Yearly Meeting, Samuel Boyce is appointed to cause 3000 copies to be printed and forwarded in the usual proportions to the Quarterly Meetings — and he is authorized to call on the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting for the cost —

1840 11 mo. 7. At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence the 7th of 11th month 1840. Present 19 members.

The Clerk being absent this indisposition Arnold Congdon is appointed Clerk for this time.

The Committee on Memorials inform that considerable progress has been made in the preparation of a memorial to be laid before this Meeting.

Cost of Book of Discipline

The Committee appointed to procure an edition of our Book of Discipline printed inform that they have attended to the service and that the books, 425 in number are now ready for delivery and the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting is requested to pay the amt. of the bill of cost $175 31/100 to Arnold Congdon for settlement.

Com. to prepare Memorial for Mass. Legislature

Samuel Boyce reports that he has had 3000 copies of the London General Epistle reprinted and forwarded to the several Quarterly Meetings.

From information received by this Meeting there now appears to be some uncertainty respecting the exemption of Friends from military requisitions in the act passed by the Legislature of Massachusetts last winter. George Howland, Samuel Boyce, John Osborne, Abraham Shearman Jr., David Buffum, Edmond Chace, William Jenkins, Moses H. Beede Samuel Boyd Doby and Arnold Congdon are appointed to draw the subject under their care, and if in their judgment, circumstances appear to render it necessary they are requested to prepare a suitable memorial to the Legislature and present it to our next meeting.

Adjourned to meet at Providence on third day before the first fifth day in the 2nd month next at 2 o'clock in the afternoon.

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2nd Mo. At a meeting for Sufferings held by adjournment at Providence on third day the 7th of 2nd mo: 1841 Present 18 mem

The Committee on the subject of Testimonies concerning deceased Friends reported that they had given further attention to their appointment and that a number had been prepared & lay before this meeting — and the memorials concerning the following friends were read and approved for publication viz. Moses Aldrich, Daniel Southwick, Peter Davis, John Collins, Moses Farnum, Joseph Mitchell, Benjamin Buffington, Theophilus Hoag, Isabel Tibbits Watkins, Elisha Thurston, Jeremiah Austin and Jonathan Chace and then the meeting adjourned to 7 o'clock in the evening.

Memorials of deceased Friends

Third day 10th of met by adjournment

Present 15 members —

Memorials concerning our deceased friends Edmund Thurston Elizabeth Mott, James Davis Micajah Collins, Mabel Osborn, David Buffum, Lucas Peckham, and Sarah Winslow wife of John Winslow were Alice read and approved —

At a meeting for Sufferings held at Providence the 3d of 2nd mo: 1841 — Present 24 members —

The Meeting proceeded in reading the Memorials presented by the Committee; and those concerning the following friends were approved for publication viz. Edward Cobb Obed Paddock, Abel Collins, Obadiah Brown, Daniel Howland, Abigail Miller, Daniel Brayton, Thomas Davis and Valentine Meader — and we appoint our friends John Meader, David Buffum, Edmund Boyd Jolly, Moses H. Beede, Rowland Green, Edmund Boyer, William Jenkins, and Arnold Congdon to cause fair copies of those read yesterday and today to be made for the press, with the liberty of making such verbal alterations as they deem proper, not affecting the sense, and have an edition of 3000 copies printed — And believing that no pecuniary loss may result from re-publishing the work entitled "the Testimony of the Society of Friends on the Continent of America" printed in 1838 they are requested to cause the same to be annexed to the volume of Memorials now about to be published — and are authorized to draw on the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting for the cost —

The following Memorial to the Legislature of Massachusetts was presented by the Committee appointed at our last meeting on the subject matter thereof, and being approved the Clerk is directed to sign the same on our behalf and Samuel Boyce Daniel Johnson and Estes Nawhall are appointed to cause a sufficient number of copies to be printed and distributed among the members of the Legislature of that State — viz.

"To the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled —

Memorial to the Legislature of Massachusetts

The Memorial of the Representatives of the Yearly Meeting of the Society of Friends residing within the New England States

Respectfully represents, That being deputed by our Yearly Meeting to take charge of such subjects, affecting the general interests and christian testimonies of the Society, as may arise during the recess of said Meeting — their attention has been called to one of the provisions of an act passed at the last session of the General Court entitled "An act in addition to the several acts concerning the Militia," by which it is apprehended that the 2d Section of the 12th Chapter of the revised Statutes, exempting the members of the religious denomination of Friends, commonly called Quakers, from the performance of military requisitions is repealed (such being the construction put thereupon by the adjutant General of the State) — and that they are now subject to be enrolled (and are in many instances actually enrolled) and considered as constituting a part of the Militia of the commonwealth; and liable "in case of war, invasion or to prevent invasion" to be called upon for the performance of active military services — under very heavy penalties (as provided in the 9th Section of said act) in case of non compliance —

In contrast with the sufferings that were endured, in the earlier days of the Society, on account of a faithful adherence on the part of its members, to their belief in the peaceable nature of the christian dispensation, we trust we shall ever hold in grateful remembrance the respect that has been paid by the Government of Massachusetts for a series of years to our well known conscientious scruples in regard to bearing arms; and we would state, as the result of inquiries directed to this subject, that as early as the year 1763, a special act was passed by the Provincial Legislature for exempting "the people called Quakers from the penalty of the law for non attendance on military musters"; that in an act passed in 1776, "providing for a re-inforcement of the American Army," it was provided that "those persons who had before the 19th day of April 1775 (the day of Lexington fight) been by Law deemed to be of the denomination of Christians called Quakers — shall not be

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Memorial to the Legislature of Massachusetts

held to take up arms or to prevent any persons to do it in their room" – that "An act for continuing sundry Laws" that were then near expiring was passed in 1779, by which the above recited act of '63 was continued in force till the year 1785 – [For which several acts we would refer to the volume of Colony and Provincial Laws printed in 1814. pages 653, 708 and 802.] And having ascertained that in every succeeding revision of the Laws relating to the Militia, previous to the last [Militia] law passed in the year 1792 and repealed in the year following by an exception] regard has been had to the conscientious scruples of the members of the Society –

After this long continued indulgence, commenced while Massachusetts was yet a Province of the British empire, extended to us throughout the war of the Revolution; and continued since that time – we have been unwilling to believe that it was the intention of the Legislature, that the act to which we are now soliciting your attention, should bear thus heavily whenever carried into effect upon the Society of Friends, but that in the haste of business, at the expiration of the time of its passage was drawing towards a close, its practical bearings in this respect were not fully seen – And while we fervently desire, that thro' the blessing of an over-ruling Providence, it may be long indeed ere the contingencies of "War" or "invasion" may be visited on our beloved country, we have felt ourselves called upon by a sense of religious duty respectfully to ask for relief in the premises, in such way as the Legislature may consider best adapted to accomplish the end in view –

We have not deemed it necessary for us on the present occasion to enter largely into an exposition of our religious views in regard to war; but may briefly say, that believing it to be inconsistent with the Gospel dispensation and unlawful for us as christians, we cannot in any way contribute to its support; and that nothing our refusal to bear arms on grounds that to us are purely conscientious, we can make no compromise with duty in this respect, by paying any thing for the privilege of exemption, in whatever shape it might be called for, or to whatever object appropriated.

"And for the sincerity of our motives we may appeal to the history of our Society, in which no instance will be found (from its first rise to the present time, a period of nearly two centuries) where a consistent member has ever

some arms, or voluntarily paid a fine or tax as an equivalent but has chosen rather patiently to suffer whatever might be inflicted upon him for the maintenance of conscience void of offence towards God"—

Signed on behalf and by direction of a meeting of the Representatives aforesaid held at Providence the 7th of 2nd month 1841—

James Boyd Clerk—

Minute regarding Boston Mating House

The subject of the case to be exercised by this meeting in relation to the meeting house of Friends in Boston having claimed our attention and several of the members of the Committee formerly appointed having been removed from us, it is thought best at this time to review the minute of 1831 made in this case—and it is our conclusion, in conformity therewith, still to request Salem Monthly Meeting to take charge of the house and premises, exercising such care in regard to its use as will in their judgment be consistent with the good order and best interests of the Society and John Osborne, George Howland, Joseph Metcalf, David Buffum, William Jenkins, Rowland Green, Abraham Shearman Jr, John Meader, Mofs Hobbs Beede and Samuel Boyd Tobey are appointed a Committee with whom Salem Monthly Meeting is requested to apply for advice or assistance as circumstances at any time hereafter may point out or require—and the Clerk is directed to furnish Salem monthly meeting with a copy of this minute —

At a meeting for Sufferings held at East Greenwich the 5th of 5th month 1841— Present 23 members—

The Committee appointed at our last meeting to cause an edition of the Memorials approved for that purpose by this Meeting to be printed—report that the work is now in progress of publication — They are requested to cause the following Minute to be prefixed thereto as an introduction viz—

Friends of New England Yearly Meeting have for several years past had it in contemplation to publish a Memorial

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5th

concerning deceased Friends that have been presented on the records of the Meeting; or at least to make a selection for this purpose, from such as have not already appeared in print; but may has not opened for it to the present time, when the Meeting for Sufferings having appointed a Committee to examine said Memorials, have united with their report, recommending the publication of those which are contained in the previous volumes. It has been a matter of regret to them on this occasion, that of many who were bright and shining lights in their day, no memorial has come down to us.— But the loss is ours not theirs.— Many were the trials and afflictions that awaited those devoted servants of the Lord, for which we are free.— Many the privileges we enjoy which were not extended to them.—

Introduction

to

Memorials

And here it may not be amiss to inquire what those principles were, which thus sustained our early Friends through all the vicissitudes of time and enabled them to look forward with a cheering hope and to feel an undoubted assurance, that when their earthly house of this tabernacle was dissolved, they had a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. As touching doctrine they declared in the language of Edward Burrough; "We have no new doctrines to hold forth. The doctrines held forth in the Holy Scriptures are the doctrines that we believe".— "All our aim is to bring men to the ancient principle of Truth, and to the right understanding and practice of the ancient apostolic doctrine and holy faith once delivered to the Saints.— Head-notions do but cause disputes; but heart-knowledge, heart-opening a sense of the living power of God inwardly, the evidence and demonstration of his Spirit in the inward parts, puts an end to disputes, and puts men upon the inward travel and exercise of spirit by that which is new and living, which avails with God".— [Works vol. III p.p. 421 '22]

The great aim of these faithful followers of the Lord Jesus was indeed to build upon Him— the adored and sure foundation— the Rock of ages— the propitiation, through faith in and repentance, for our sins that are past; and the sanctifier and Redeemer of his people, through obedience to his inspeaking word in the heart.— Wearied with the unsubstantial forms and ceremonies in the different professions to which they had been attached, many of them had long sought for an experimental knowledge of those truths which are testified of and related

in the Holy Scriptures, they had earnestly desired to witness, the reality, the life and power of religion; and when their adorable mercy their minds were illuminated and their hearts softened and tendered they consulted not with flesh and blood, but in obedience to the heavenly vision, they embraced the Truth in the love of it, and were constrained thro' the influence of Gospel love to declare unto others what the Lord had done for their own souls - With a reverent and firm belief in all that was done for us by our blessed Saviour, in that prepared body in which he came to do his Father's will - his birth, miracles, sufferings, death, resurrection, ascension, mediation and judgment; truths then generally received; they believed it to be the special and peculiar work of their day 'to press the necessity of believing in and obeying his inward and spiritual appearance and manifestation of himself through his Light, Grace and Spirit in the hearts and consciences of men and women, to reprove, convict, convert and change them', — being fully persuaded that without regeneration no man can be a true christian; that without holiness no man shall see the Lord - And they felt themselves called upon in the openings of the sacred Truth, and in humble reliance upon divine aid, to follow out in practice, at whatever expense of personal suffering, principles that with indubitable clearness they had seen to be true — Hence their faithfulness in maintaining those distinguishing views of the Society to the spiritual nature of the christian dispensation; to that of silent waiting upon the Lord, not only for the aid of his Holy Spirit, acceptably to worship him, but also for guidance in all the exercises of our hands; to a free Gospel ministry, and the right qualification for its exercise; to the disuse of forms and ceremonies in religious worship; to simplicity of deportment, conduct and conversation, in all its various bearings; as well as our testimonies against war and oaths, and every other practice among men, that was believed to be counter to the Divine will -

These principles and testimonies which were so nobly sustained by our forefathers in the Truth, thro' the holy aid of Him who strengthened them, are still cherished by us; and we believe that as our members are individually engaged to yield obedience to the manifestations of Truth in their own minds, they will continue to be sustained in their original purity; and that a remnant will thus be preserved, who amid the changes and fluctuations of time and the varying opinions of men, will feel bound to promulgate to the world and endeavour to exhibit in their lives the pure principles of the Gospel of Christ —

But to return to the more immediate purpose of this

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Introduction to Memorial

introduction; which contemplating the faithful and humble walking, the exemplary lives and peaceful close of those who have gone before us, and who we feel no undoubted assurance, have thro' faith and patience, inherited the promises; let us remember for our encouragement, that they were by nature men of like passions with ourselves, that they had their seasons in earthen vessels, that in their day, they had to bide, their temptations, their conflicts and close provings; their seasons of desertion, as well as of abundings: and oh! how animating the consideration, that He who was with them in all their afflictions; who enabled them to feel the lis Grace was sufficient for them; is disposed in condescending fondness, as we look unto Him in singleness and uprightness of heart, to be also with us, not only in life, strengthening and enabling us to perform all that He requires at our hands; but also thro' the dark valley of the shadow of death, and opening to us beyond it the prospect of an entrance into those mansions prepared for all those who truly love and obey our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ—

Report of Com. on Memorial to Mass. Legislature

The Committee to cause the Memorial adopted at our last meeting to the Legislature of Massachusetts to be printed and circulated among the members thereof, report that they have attended to the service and that the request of the Memorial has been granted by the Legislature of that State, and that Friends and by law were exempted from military requisitions on their producing the prescribed certificate annually to the assessors of each town— The Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting is requested to pay to Samuel Boyce ten dollars, the expense of causing the Memorial to be printed—

Com. of Yearly Meeting

The subject of making provision for the accommodation of our ensuing Yearly Meeting claiming our attention we appoint our friends William Reynolds, Joseph Metcalf, Edmund Chace, David Buffum, Peter Peckham and Samuel Boyce to make the necessary arrangements and they are authorized to call on the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting for $600— and Rhode Island Mo. Meet. is requested to render its assistance as heretofore — and the Clerk is directed to furnish that meeting with a copy of this minute—

A testimony and Memorial from Sandwich monthly
Meeting approved by Sandwich Quarterly Meeting concerning our
deceased friend Browning Swift was read at this time and being
approved the Clerk is directed to forward it to the Yearly Meeting—

This Meeting having been requested to enter upon an examination
of certain writings — the subject has claimed our deliberate
and solid consideration and we are fully united in sentiment
that way does not open in the Truth to enter upon such
investigation —

At a meeting for Sufferings held at Newport 6th mo 12 - 1844

Present 34 members —

The Committee to cause an edition of the
Discipline to be printed report that they have forwarded
to the Quarterly Meetings a number believed to be sufficient
to supply the necessities of the several meetings and that
225 copies remain on hand — 100 of which are at Newport
and 125 in Providence subject to the disposal of the Yearly
Meeting —

The Committee on Memorials report that the edition
of 3000 copies has been printed and that 1000 copies have
been bound and are now in the hands of our friend
Moses H. Beede ready for delivery to such friends as
are disposed to procure them at 25 cents per copy that
being about the cost — and John Wilbur, Thomas C. Boyce
and Thomas Boyd & Obey are appointed to prepare suitable
subscription papers to be forwarded to the different meetings
if approved by the Yearly Meeting —

The subject of Slavery in its various bearings
having often claimed the serious and weighty consideration
of this meeting and it having been unexpectedly spread
before us in the 8th month last and again revived at this
time has received our feeling consideration and we
are fully united in desire to do a[ny] that may open

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6th M.

for in the Truth in relation to it — and under a weighty concern that we may faithfully move under right direction the subject is referred for further consideration to a future meeting —

The Clerk is directed to lay the Records of this Meeting for the past year before the Yearly Meeting —

Adjourned to the close of the Yearly Meeting —

James Boyd Jr. Clerk —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held by adjournment at the close of the Yearly Meeting 6mo 17th 1841--

Present 26 members -

To appoint Samuel Boyd Jolly our Clerk for the ensuing year -

It is concluded that the times and places of holding the stated sittings of this meeting be the same as last year viz in Providence in the 8th and 11th months at the 9th hour in the morning on the 7th day of the week of holding Rhode Island Quarterly Meetings - and also at Providence in the 2nd month at the 3 hour in the afternoon of the day of holding the Select Quarterly Meeting at that place - at East Greenwich in the 5th month on the day of holding the Select Quarterly Meeting there at the 3d hour in the afternoon - and at Newport on 7th day at the 5th hour in the afternoon of the day of holding the Select Yearly Meeting --

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At a meeting for Sufferings held at Providence the 7th of 8th mo 1841.

Present 15 members

The Committee to provide for the accommodation of the Yearly Meeting presented a bill of the expenses incurred by them of $144 13/100 leaving a balance due them of $144 13/100 after deducting $600. the sum heretofore directed to be paid to them - and the Yearly Meetings Treasurer is requested to pay this balance to the Committee -

The subject of Slavery in its various relations being again unofficially brought under our consideration by minute of our last meeting and the Yearly Meeting having by the following minute referred the subject to us, together with a minute from Salem Quarterly Meeting - the Circular Epistle from London on Slavery and a document on the same head from Philadelphia Meeting for Sufferings - we have been introduced into a weighty consideration upon it - and we appoint our friends John Meader, Rowland Greene, Abraham Shearman, Thomas Rowland, Thomas Anthony, Samuel Boyd Jolly, John Osborne, William Jenkins, David Buffum, John D. Lamb, Joseph Metcalf, Samuel Boyd and Nicholas Brayton to take the subject into their deliberate and solid consideration and to present to this meeting at a future time the results of their deliberations -

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11 mo:

"New England Yearly Meeting 6 mo: 1841— The following minute having received from Salem Quarterly Meeting held on the 27th of last month viz. "The importance of maintaining a faithful testimony against Slavery and the Slave trade, claiming the attention of this meeting — after a time of consideration thereon, it was concluded to request to our next Yearly Meeting the expediency of its taking some further measures, should it think advisable, relative to the circulation of information respecting this iniquitous system."

John D. Lang and others were named to take the subject matter thereof into consideration, and report their judgment as to the right disposition of it, at a future sitting — An Epistle from the Yearly Meeting of Friends held in London last year, addressed to the Yearly Meetings of Friends in America in relation to the subject of Slavery, was read and claimed the solid consideration of the Meeting, and was referred for further consideration to the above named Committee to report their views thereon at a future sitting —

A collection of Facts and Observations relative to the participation of American citizens in the African Slave trade, forwarded to us by the Yearly Meeting of Philadelphia was also referred to the same Committee —

At a subsequent sitting The Committee to whom was referred the subject from Salem Quarterly Meeting and the Epistle from the Yearly Meeting of London, in relation to Slavery and the Slave trade; together with the document from the Yearly Meeting of Philadelphia — made report — that they had taken the same into their serious and solid consideration and were united in judgment that the whole subject be referred to the consideration of our next Meeting for Sufferings which being considered was satisfactory to us — and the subject was accordingly referred to the attention of that Meeting —

From the Minutes of the Yearly Meeting

Abraham Shearman Jr. Clerk P.T.

The Clerk is directed to furnish the Trustees of Obadiah Brown's Benevolent Fund with 1000 copies of the Memorials of deceased Friends, (unbound) at cost and he is authorized to draw from the Treasury of the Quarterly Meeting $372 54/100 to pay what is now due for printing and binding the work—

The Treasurer is directed to pay Samuel Boyce $15 30/100 the amount of Theodore Perry's bill for taking care of Boston meeting house and sundry services from Feb'y 1st 1840 to Nov. 24th 1841

The London General Epistle for 1841 was read at this time and is satisfactory to us— and in order that it may be generally distributed among Friends we appoint Samuel Boyce to cause 3000 copies to be printed and forwarded to the Quarterly Meetings in the usual proportions— and he is authorized to call on the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting for the cost—

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence 11th mo 6th 1841
Present 12 members—

The Committee appointed at our last meeting on the subject of slavery inform that they have given attention to their appointment but are not ready at this time to make a full report— they are continued and desired to report at our next meeting—

The Clerk is requested to cause the minutes of deceased Friends in possession of this Meeting to be bound in a similar manner with those already completed—

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence 2nd mo 2d 1842
Present 23 members— The Committee on the subject of slavery continued at our last meeting now presented the following Essay addressed "to the professors of Christianity in the slave States and elsewhere" and after being deliberately and closely considered it was fully approved and the Clerk directed to sign it on our behalf and our friends Joseph Metcalf, Portsmouth Grove, Samuel Boyce Jr. William Southwick, Edward Brayton, Peter Healey, Samuel Boyce,

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2nd Mo

Samuel Taylor jun, and John D. Lang are appointed to cause it to be printed, if they think it advisable, and a sufficient number of copies printed and distributed in such manner as they think it will be most likely to carry into effect the concern of this meeting and of the Yearly Meeting— Ben Clark is directed to forward on behalf of this Meeting, a copy of the work to each of the Meetings for Sufferings of Friends—

The Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting is requested to pay to Samuel Hoyes £32 10 in the sixteen instances for printing the London Epistle and Circulars for Subordinate Meetings relating to the "Memorials of Friends"—

"An Appeal to the Professors of Christianity in the Southern States and elsewhere on the subject of Slavery—

It is the duty of those who are the professed followers of our Divine Master to be concerned for the welfare of their fellow professors and for their steady advancement in the truth, knowing that for all his covenanted mercies and privileges he stands to them a word of counsel or of caution in a spirit of love and good will which desires the purity and prosperity of the whole heritage of God— "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will towards men" was the anthem sung by angels at the advent of the Saviour, and as we become partakers of his spirit we too may become enabled to join in this acceptable way—

It is our heart's desire in truth and for the promotion of the cause of truth and righteousness, and certainly not for the advancement of any temporal interest of our own, that we are induced at this time to present to our fellow professors of every denomination this brief address on the subject of slavery, and the freedom that we feel ourselves required to own in relation to it, will not, we trust, be deemed obtrusive, when we remember the intrinsic importance of the matter treated of and call to mind the ancient faith and profession of both of all true professors of Christianity. We are believers in one Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ, who died for the sins of the whole world— He is known as a risen Mediator who ever liveth to make intercession for us— We believe in the promised Comforter — the Spirit of truth — to guide into all truth — We believe in a final day when we must all appear before the tribunal seat of Christ, to receive a reward

for the dead, done in the body — and that it is not to any one that with Jesus Christ shall enter into the kingdom of heaven but they who do the will of our Father who is in heaven — It is they who have clothed the naked, fed the hungry, visited the sick, and observed every duty that should obtain in the life of a fundamental doctrines are we taught, faithfully receiving all the law — hope of salvation in the Lord Jesus Christ, and they who are keeping his [illegible] and commandments given forth for the observance of these do possessing obligatory and paramount authority to the present day — believing this binding in conscience is that measure rule which admonishing to the exercise of every man in his justice and wisdom — "Whatsoever ye would that men should do to you — do ye even so to them" it [illegible] comprehension in its application and eminently fraternal in its results — It extends to all men for has created them made of one blood all the nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth" — By creation the whole human family are brethren — they are in a state of sin and misery — they all stand in need of redemption and Christ is infinite has died for all — All whom God made are the objects of his mercy, all are embraced in the universal proclamation which he has established — and all, without distinction of caste or colour, must stand before him at the day of judgment; and it is that you and we may obtain with joy at his tribunal and receive a gracious welcome into the mansions prepared for the righteous that we address now to you and to entreat you to give a serious attention to what is presented for your solemn consideration —

It may be known to you that there were several of your fellow members of the Society of Friends who had held Yearly Meeting for worship on Monday last — and which was conducted with solemnity, we may perhaps hope to many that no doubt rested in the enlightening influence of the Holy Spirit upon their hearts, that they were enabled to see that the practice did not accord with that law which has been so mercifully given to the children of men thro' this adorable Saviour; and were incommoded with his manifest and which we have noticed —

It is not our desire to revive any consideration which we calculated unprofitably to awaken your feelings, but we believe it to be the duty of all carefully to contemplate the misery and suffering which, we have already seen flowing from its very beginning on the Continent of Africa — commencing in cruelty and terminating in the worst forms of the human mind, inducing an awful destruction of life, a depravation of principle and dreadful sufferings in the dispensations — Let us not be willing to shut from our view the terrible effects of the foreign [illegible] trade, rather let us open ourselves from the impression that will thereby [illegible] and the fellow that this [illegible] is intimately [illegible]

the laws of our land — The facts in the case are certainly be
that which a man let his laws unite, the cupidity of dynasties
and wicked men will devise means to evade the execution
of those laws, and we deem it pertinent to our purpose
to spread before you sound and authenticated statements
which tend to show the evil of the traffic and to exhibit
in some degree its wickedness and cruelty —

With the effects of slavery at home many of you are
familiar — You are acquainted with its influence in the
various branches of all the relations of life — You are
aware of the degradation and wretchedness that
in a greater or less degree always attend it — But it is some
remote consequences may escape observation and we
may even be in peril in the distance of the necessary
connection of cause and effect — It is a truth which no
politician cannot be disposed that to slavery as a cause
in the slave trade is to be traced as an effect, with all its
manifold misery and crime; and we would ask, that
to all those who are concerned in the one, whether it
is abandonment would not certainly produce the extinction
of the other; and even those who are the supporters of
slavery, consistently, or with hope of success, should view
the slave trade as its legitimate offspring — It is true and
natural fruit — Let us be willing to examine this subject
as it is and act as an enlightened by the truth
shall dictate — The extent of the slave trade at the present
day is much greater than can be possibly be believed by
those who have not informed themselves upon the subject — It
is a fair question of some of the authorities collected in a
work recently published by Thos. Fowell Buxton, which
is believed entitled to entire confidence — the work itself is
evidently shewing been prepared with great care and
after much patient inquiry and investigation. It is shewn
to be well established by the author that notwithstanding all
that has been done to arrest this traffic, more than 150,000
human beings are annually conveyed from Africa across
the Atlantic and sold as slaves, being principally
drawn from the ports of Brazil and Cuba; and not less
than 50,000 more as required for the supply of the Mahomedan
slave trade — making a total of more than
200,000 persons who are annually torn from the land
of their nativity and sold into slavery —

X Note — R. R. Gurley, the well known advocate of the
American Colonization society, in a publication printed
by him in England in 1841 (viz) It is said from one
to the best he could collect that

within forty days after they are severally taken from the
Owners or Masters of such Vessels by the Captain Steward
& Mate of the Ship or Vessel in which they are imported into
the United States from any foreign Country

If the Negroes may justly be divided into Classes of
according to the length, Position & Figure of their Noses
"Bilbao Slaves stated upon the Coast of Africa are
distinguished by two Incisions that bound the Nose
annually carried into Captivity, than as Christians or
Conversion for almost countless Centuries and numerous
Drawing out of the Slave Trade - I am about to prove that
the inestimable Boon indeed to Slaves - that the
Treatment of Negroes cruelly practised in the Progress of
Captives conducted on board the Slave Ships - Officers and
Surgeons of Vessels employed in the Slave Trade - Diseases
Mortality from them - and that for every Ten thousand
or Black and brown available to Labour, four
lost or destroyed - This mortality arises from the
following causes - 1st The original Violence of the Slave
2d The march to the Coast and detention there -
3d The middle Passage
4th The sufferings after Captivity, and after Sale -
5th The initiation into Slavery in the Islands &c
It is denied by the Planters -

The original Violence of the Slave Trade is a proof of
the continual Effusion of Blood - "Scenes of warfare and devas-
a wilderness - which the inhabitants are obliged to wear with
"By the authority of Barbot & some others, Jackson, Winterbotham
and the works of Professor Smeathman it appears that the Slave
and almost the only cause of war in the interior of Africa is
the desire to procure Slaves for Traffic, and that every species of
violence, from the invasion of a country to that of robbery by
single individuals, is had recourse to for the attainment of
this object -

Mr Wilberforce, in his Letter to his constituents in
has described the mode in which Slaves are usually obt
by Officers, and after speaking of the dreadful consequ
which that unjust Trade upon another Co
"In one Instance of the kind" he learnt from the unfortu
testimony, that a fruitful Country called Village by the
The village is attacked in the night, if deemed necessa
increase the confusion, it is set on fire and the wretched i
as they are flying naked from the flames, are seized and
into Slavery -

These depredations are for the most commonly
perpetrated by the natives on each other, and on a larger
smaller scale, according to the power and number of t
inhabitants and the nearness of the coast - By these
principally, or throughout the whole extent of Africa the re
person and property entirely insecure - &c. &c. &c.

who has acquired very considerable property, in which he has
large family, the real of which will produce a considerable
profit annually in the shape of rent. In the meantime the
great body of the people will be called forth in the wide track
by the inhabitants of this fertile region and be induced to
live a continued state of confusion and terror. The
statements of Williamson have been corroborated by
Bryan Edwards, formerly a planter in Jamaica and an
able and persevering advocate for the continuance of the
traffic. In a speech delivered in Parliament Edwards
he says - "I understand that Williamson has been very
recently informed as to the manner in which slaves are
procured by purchase. The intelligence I have collected
from my own negroes abundantly confirms his account
and I have not the smallest doubt that in Africa
the effects of this trade are precisely such as he represents
them to be." But it may be urged, admitting these statements
to be true they refer to a state of things in Africa which
does not now exist. A considerable period of time has
indeed elapsed since these statements were made, but
it clearly appears, that the slave system has obtained
throughout the interior of Africa, down to the present time
nor will it be expected that any favorable change will
take place during the continuance of the slave trade. Of
Professor Smith who accompanied Capt Tuckey in
the expedition to the Congo in 1816 says. Every man I have
conversed with acknowledges that if white men did not
come for slaves, the ways, which main leads to the system
would from the European slave trade, would be proportionally
less frequented. Captain Lyon states that, when he was at
Fezzan, in 1819, a Native the reigning sultan, was continually
engaged in their Mountains, in one of which 1800 were
collected, all of whom, excepting a very few, either perished
on their march before they reached Fezzan or were
killed by their captors - x x x
We have obtained most valuable information as to
the interior of Africa from the Laborious travels of
Denham and Clapperton - they reached Soudan or
Nigritia by the land route through Fezzan and
Bornou, in 1823 and the narration of their journey
furnishes many particularly heads of the resources
of that Africa is capable of. Unfortunately for

chiefs Dankuma sends for a butcher to kill a sheep, it is the custom of the country instantly to fire it, and as they [illegible] are all composed of grass and dry wood, the whole is quickly devoured by the flames — The unfortunate inhabitants fly quickly from the devouring element and take immediate shelter into the bush, of which we have generally a considerable portion round the villages; the men are quickly dispersed, and the women and children rush together in a most dreadful

"Denham tells us that the Bephanee nation had been decimated by the Sheik of Bornou, in five different expeditions when at least twenty thousand persons were slaughtered, and that four fifths of that number at least died in slavery. And in speaking of them he says the remarkable superstition — 'The season of the year had arrived (Oct. seventeenth) when the throwing on of the corn-crop is to take place' — Commodore Owen who was employed in the survey of the eastern coast of Africa about the years 1822 and 1824, says — 'The riches of Dahomey consist in a trifling degree of gold and valuable principally of grain, which are produced in such quantities as to justify Monumbigen — But the introduction of the slave trade stopped the pursuit of industry, and changed the fertile plains where peace and agriculture had formerly reigned into the seat of war and bloodshed —

"Contending tribes are now continually driving both by mutual conflict from their native soil to the Portuguese, who settle those wars and settle on the land they produce —

"In speaking of Dahomey he says 'The slaves they do obtain are the spoils of wars among the petty tribes, who were it not for the market they thus find for their prisoners, would live in all likelihood, remain at home with each other, and probably be connected by bonds of friendship

"Thomas, Agent of the American Colonial Society, in writing to the Board of Directors from Liberia, in 1823, says the following incident occurred, not for the singularity of the circumstance to the blacks, but for its significance to us — every month in the year that it has fallen under my own observation and I can vouch for its authenticity, King Boatswain was a powerful superstitious, and steady friend among the natives, he has uniformly shown himself received a quantity of goods in trust from a French slaver for which he obtained 5 stout young slaves, he sucks it a point of honor to punctual this engagement — The trader was at last wearied in expecting the return of the slaves and he knew not the cause — Looking around in the peaceable tribes around him for his victims he singled out the Dassha, a small agricultural and trading people of great influence among the natives — His warriors were skilfully divided and the different bands, and making a circuitous

of death on the slaughtering encampments in the dead of the night accomplishes without difficulty or risk to ourselves, in one hour the annihilation of the whole population, men, women and children; every hut fired; every young child generally shared the fate of their parents — the boys and girls alone were reserved to grace the triumph."

From a letter of Mr Brain, a Wesleyan Missionary, country — addressed to the Secretary of the Wesleyan Missionary Society, we make the following extract — "On this occasion a party of man-hunters assembled together and fell suddenly on a small town or village during the night, they massacre all the men that they can overtake and carry away the rest of the inhabitants as the best prize of the spoil — or, when a chieftain thirsty himself or sufficiently powerful he makes the most frivolous excuse for waging war upon his neighbor, so that he may spoil his country of its inhabitants — Having been in close connection with many of the liberated Africans in Mr Bathurst which is, two hundred and fifty miles up the Gambia and also in Sierra Leone at the mouth of that river, we had many opportunities of learning the various modes in which they had been carried from which it appeared that the wholesale method by siezure is by far the most frequent, and that where this fails from insufficient number of victims could not be procured for the market; so that it may be called the prevailing way of obtaining slaves" — After many other citations from various authorities as to the cruelty and bloodshed incident to the African Slaves, Buxton proceeds to state — "I could add an indefinite, a thousand other instances of the scenes of cruelty and bloodshed which are exhibited in Africa, having their origin in the slave trade, but enough has been quoted to show the question with which I set out that the principal and almost the only cause of war, in the interior of Africa, is the desire to procure slaves for the trade, and that the only difference between the former times and the present day is this — that the mortality consequent on the conflicts of the system has increased in proportion to the increase of the traffic, which it appears has doubled in amount, as compared with the previous period of 1790 —

The next cause of mortality after the seizure, is the cruelty exercised in the march of the slaves and their detention previous to embarkation — "The slaves are commonly secured by putting the right leg of one and the left leg of another in the same pair of fetters — By subjecting the fetters with a string they can walk tho very slowly — Forty four slaves are sometimes fastened together by the neck with a strong pair of wooden stocks; and in

the right or a little e[illegible] of letters is put on them hands and
a mutton a light iron chain passed around the neck - Each
of them a main rod of thirteen or seven in a different
manner; a stock bilet forward is put, about the foot long and
a smooth notch being made in one side of it, the ankle of the
slave is bolted to the smooth part by means of a strong iron
staple, one prong of which passes on each side of the ankle -
In this and manner they proceed to travel from the interior
of the country to the coast, subjected to very privation and misery
so that it is estimated, from the most accurate calculation
that has been obtained, that the number of those who die on the
journey alone is equal to five sixths of the whole - Those
detained at the coast waiting for embarkation, from want of
sufficient food, from close confinement and other causes, dreadful
of a most frightful character often supervene, producing a
frightful mortality, so that in every stage of this dreadful traffic
the find the lives of victims are continually sacrificed -

The next advert to the suicidal scenes on board, or the
transportation of the slaves across the Atlantic, and the sufferings
they are exposed are truly of the most appalling character, fully
justifying as we observed, the language used by the British parliament
in 1807 - "The stings of a wounded conscience can cannot
inflict, but nearly all which human can do to make his fellow
creatures miserable without depriving his of life, for by hastening a speedy
end to their existence will still be but imperfect, and it will only
continue true, that never can so much misery be found condensed
into so small a space as in a slave ship during the middle passage"

"The first feature of this deadly tragedy, says Buxton, which
attracts our attention, is the wicked inefficiency in point of tonnage
of the vessels employed for the conveyance of human beings which they
are made to contain -

"We have a faithful description of the miseries of the middle
passage, from the pen of an eye witness, Falconbridge - His account
refers to a period antecedent to 1790 - He tells us that - the unhappy
negroes, on being brought aboard ship, are immediately fastened
together, two and two, by handcuffs on their wrists and by irons
rivited on their legs - They are frequently stowed so close as to
admit of no other posture than lying on their sides - Neither
will the height between decks, unless directly under the grating, admit
them the indulgence of the least posture, especially when there are
platforms, which is generally the case - These platforms are a
kind of shelf, about eight or nine feet in breadth, extending from
the side of the ship towards the center - They are placed nearly
midway between the decks, at the distance of two or three
feet from each deck - Upon these the negroes are stowed
in the same manner as they are in the decks underneath -

"In favourable weather they are fed upon deck, but in bad
weather their food is given to them below - Steam boiled
guarrels take place among them during their meals,
more especially when they are put upon short allowance
which frequently happens - In that case, the weak are

obliged to be content with a very scanty pittance — Three allowances of water is about half a pint each per meal — Upon the negroes refusing to take sustenance I have seen coals of fire shovelled hot into a shovel and placed so near their lips as to scorch and burn them and this has been accompanied with threats of forcing them to swallow the coals, if they any longer persisted in refusing to eat" — He proceeds to notice the case of a Liverpool vessel, which took on board at the Bonny river nearly 700 slaves more than she had cabin room for! and Falconbridge says — "By purchasing so great a number the slaves were so crowded that they were even obliged to lie one upon another — This occasioned such a mortality among them, that without meeting with unusual bad weather, or having a longer voyage than common, nearly one half of them died before the ship arrived in the West Indies" — He then describes the treatment of the sick as follows: — "The slaves allotted to the sick regulary is under the hatches, where they lie on the bare planks — By this means, those who are emaciated frequently have their skin and even their flesh entirely rubbed off, by the motion of the ship, from the prominent parts of the shoulders, elbows and hips so as to render the bones in those parts quite bare — The excessive pain which the poor sufferers feel from being obliged to continue in so dreadful a situation, frequently, for several weeks, in case they take them to live so long, is not to be conceived or described — Few indeed are ever able to withstand the fatal effects of it — The surgeon in going between decks in the morning frequently finds several of the slaves dead, and among the men sometimes a dead and a living negro fastened by their irons together — The united testimony of the statements of Falconbridge, who was a surgeon on board a slave ship because we do not wish to dwell unnecessarily upon this painful scene — The cruelties exercised in the middle passage upon the slaves have increased to an awful extent since the trade has become contraband by the laws of nations, from the fact of a different class of vessels being now employed than formerly, — those that have much less capacity for the accommodation of their human cargoes, in consequence of their construction being such as to render them the most rapid sailers, that they may outsail or avoid the armed vessels that are often engaged in pursuing them —

Laird, in his journal of the recent expedition to the Niger says, 'Instead of the large and commodious vessels which it would be the interest of the slave trader to employ

to know by our interference, forced him to use a class of vessels (well known to naval men as American clippers) of the very worst description that could have been imagined for the purpose, every quality being sacrificed for speed. In the holds of these wretched the unhappy victims of European cupidity are stowed literally in bulk - ++ - As a proof of the increase of the mortality on the middle passage, I may add, says Buxton, the evidence of Jackson (who had been a judge in the Mixed Commission Court at Sierra Leone) before the Committee on Africa in 1830. In answer to a question he said, "I think the sufferings of these poor slaves are greatly aggravated by the manner in which they are hurried from their own country into a distant land. The trade is now illegal, and therefore whatever is done, is done clandestinely; they are packed more like bales of goods than human beings, and the general calculation is that if in the adventure one in three arrives safely, the owners are well paid". - Dr. Walsh in his Notices of Brazil gives the following account of a Spanish slaver detained by the vessel of war, in which he returned from Brazil in 1829. He says, "When we mounted her decks, we found her full of slaves, she had taken on board 562 and had been out seventeen days, during which she lost fifty five. The slaves were all enclosed under grated hatchways between decks. The space was so low that they sat between each other's legs, and stowed so close together that there was no possibility of their lying down, or at all changing their position by night or day. As they belonged to and were classified on account of different individuals, they were all branded like sheep, with the owners marks of different forms. These were imprinted on their breasts or on their arms, and as the mate informed me with perfect indifference, burnt with a red hot iron -

"The poor beings were all turned up together; they covered the deck with a swarming mass from the exertion of a living, like the whole deck was crowded to suffocation from stem to stern. On looking into the places where they had been crammed there were found several children next to the sides of the ship. The little creatures seemed indifferent as to life or death, and when they were carried on deck, many of them could not stand; some water was brought; it was then that the extent of their sufferings was expressed in a fearful manner - They all rushed like maniacs towards it - no entreaties, or threats or blows could restrain them - they struck and stumped and fought with one another for a drop of the precious liquid, as if they were rabid at the sight of it. There is nothing which slaves suffer from so much during the middle passage as want of water. It is sometimes usual to take out casks filled with sea water as ballast and when the slaves are received on board, to start the casks and refill them with fresh. On one occasion a chief from Bahia neglected to change the contents of the casks, and on the middle passage found to their horror that they were filled with nothing but sea water. All the slaves on board, perished. He could judge of the extent of their sufferings from the sight we now saw. When the poor creatures were ordered down again, several of them came and fastened to

hands against our lives, with Cook, of the greatest anxiety at the prospect of returning to the horrid place of suffering below. It was not surprising that they had lost 55 in the space of 17 days - Indeed many of the survivors were seen lying about the decks in the last stage of emaciation, and in a state of filth and misery not to be looked at - While expressing my horror at what I saw, and explaining against it the cloth of this vessel, I was informed by many friends, who had for a long time on the coast of Africa, and visited so many ships, that this was one of the best they had seen - The height between decks was only 18 inches, so that the unfortunate beings could not turn round, or even on their sides, the elevation being less than the breadth of their shoulders, and here they are usually chained to the decks by their wrists and legs - After much deliberation, this vessel was allowed to proceed on her voyage - It was dark when we separated, and the last parting words we heard from the unhallowed ship, were the cries and shrieks of the slaves suffering under some bodily infliction.

We give a few more details on this subject from the many details that might be cited - The Constitution returned in 1834 off Mayotta - "This vessel was only 75 tons burden, yet she had 350 negroes crammed in between decks, 180 of whom were literally so stowed as to have barely sufficient height to sit upright, while in a sitting posture - The poor creatures crowded around their delivery, with their mouths open and their tongues hanging out for want of water, presenting a perfect spectacle of human misery.

"In a letter from the Cape of Good Hope of date 20th January 1837, we find it stated that her Majesty's brig Dolphin had lately captured the Corvette Incomprehensible, and that on taking possession of her, the scene presented on board was harrowing in the extreme. Two hundred had died of sickness of the 800 embarked - another hundred were lying nearly lifeless on bunks in wretchedness and misery, and all the agony of despair; the remaining 600 were so cramped from the close manner in which they were packed (like herrings in a barrel) and the length of time they had been on their voyage, and the cold they had endured in rounding the Cape in a state of nudity, that it took the utmost exertions of the English sailors, favored by a hot sun, to straighten them - In the Shipping and Mercantile Gazette of 2nd & 6th Feb 1838 is the following paragraph - "A letter from the Senator Bosch at Rio, dated 31st March 1838 says - 'The Isaac Centennial arrived here schooner, called the Aragan off Cape Antonio, having 350 slaves of both sexes under the age of 20 and have sent her into the Havanna for adjudication. She cleared out from Cabinas, and lost 50 on her passage by death, owing to the crowded manner in which they were packed, resembling herrings in a sprat's shop -

"In the parliamentary papers printed last year by the House of Commons, the following among other cases are reported - the brig Don Manuel de Portugal from Angola embarked 600 slaves of whom 73 died on the voyage - Brig Adamastor from Quilimane embarked 800 slaves - of these 304 died on the voyage -

Brig Lion from Kirkinnan on Campt Bay - 803 slaves - of them 253 died
& were thrown overboard alive during the voyage - The Vice-Admiralty
having supposed many the slaves, thirty of them were immediately
thrown overboard alive - afterwards the nearly naked skeletons
of which 253 died - The remaining slaves 572 in number, were
landed on the coast of Liberia at Bereculay, near to Mt Vai Gum
but in so miserable a state that the people [illegible] could not walk
but were carried on shore" -

To the mortality arising from the causes already adverted to
during the middle passage, we add the fatal mortality which
would ensue after the first 20 per cent of the
unbearded people during their voyage - How does the mortality
cease when they are stricken on shore, but after landing and in the
seasoning first 20 per cent and disappear, and it would
appear by as careful computations as have been made, that
there is no exaggeration in estimating the mortality of the slave
trade as follows -

1. Between purchase and detention 100 per cent
2. Middle passage and after capture 25 "
3. After landing and in the seasoning 20 "
140 -

or that for every 1000 negroes alive at the end of a year after
their deportation, and available to the purchaser we have a
sacrifice of 1400" -

From the African Repository Vol. No. 13 1841, we make the
following short extract - "We cannot too often nor too solemnly call
the attention of our readers to the fact, that the slave trade in all
its infancy, is at the present moment in full vigor and flourishing
and thereby to a most lamentable degree - It is computed
that at this very moment 20,000 human beings, crowded in the
small and narrow slave ships, are floating on the ocean
between the land from which they have been torn, and the mart
to which they are destined - What a dream of horror! what scenes
what groans must fill the air along their whole course! How
many are just breathing their last! How many just cast overboard!
Who can number the accumulated horrors on which the sun never
darts his beams!" Again from the same periodical we make the
following extract - "When a slaver is chased by a cruiser and is
in danger of being seized, she must be lightened - And as the slaves
on board are the most valuable part of the cargo, the
heaviest of them are thrown overboard first - If now a negro
is hoping to escape the pursuing cruiser, men, women and children
are hurried overboard without remorse, and in numbers proportioned to the danger - In some instances when capture seems
certain, every slave on board is thrown over, in the hope that the
cruiser, finding no chance for head money, will let the vessel
and then she can return to port, take on board another cargo
and try again - The slaves are thrown over with the fetters that
were placed on them before they were first on board - To lessen the chance
of their escape, they are sometimes cast in, fetters and all, in large
companies, and to prevent their sinking before the cruiser can
come and pick them up, weights are sometimes added to sink
them immediately - But this is not the only mode of lightening
the vessel - Often three or four slaves are crowded into a cask
which is thrown over with weights attached to it - One vessel
threw over 12 such casks before she was captured - The vessel had
500 slaves on board and threw them all over - Such scenes occur
principally on the western ~~coast~~ African station, and it is said
that even the sharks know this token of bloodshed and are
often known to follow the slave ship from the port -

Appalling - is the view that has been presented of the foreign
slave trade, it becomes us to contemplate it and to remember

that it is not probable any means can be devised to arrest this awful work of human life, these multiplied and dreadful sufferings which by the continuance of slavery, a reward is offered to stimulate the avarice of wicked men —

Nor are the painful and heart rending separations incident to the internal traffic that is prosecuted in our own country to be passed lightly over in the catalogue of evils connected with slavery

[* Note — Misery and Woe are the points of resemblance between the African and American Slave trade — Witness the manner in which the slaves are secured when driven thro the country or transported by sea and the manifold sufferings to which they are subjected]

Notwithstanding it may be the intention of many who hold slaves to prevent, in the prosecution of this traffic, the separation of families, the rending of the domestic ties which bind hearts together, whether high or low, rich or poor, bond or free, yet it is not always in their power to avert the parting of husband and wife, parent and child, brother and sister — Their care to prevent these cruel separations, even when thus attempted to be exercised does not and cannot always avail. Your daily observation shows you that they are often perpetrated; and bringing down the universal christian rule, which it is our duty to hold always before us, how could we endure to have a parent, a child or a bosom friend torn from us, and plunged into uncertain but hopeless and bitter bondage ?

[* Note — President Dew of William and Mary College, Virginia, in his celebrated attempted defence of slavery, makes the following observation — "No known made or undertook to obtain correcting like an account account of the number of negroes every year carried out of Virginia to the south and west — We have not been enabled to ascertain exactly; but from the best information we can obtain, we have no hesitation in saying that upwards of 6000 are yearly exported to other states — Virginia is in fact a negro raising state for other states — She produces enough for her own supply and 6000 for sale —]

It may not be necessary for us to point out the evils of slavery as it exists in our land — We need not offer an argument to prove what is self-evident — its inconsistency with the universal golden rule, and that in the observance of this rule the highest interest of man is promoted — But were could we disregard our future happiness in connection with this question and limit our views to that which will endure to our present quit and the promotion of our temporal interest, we cannot doubt but that them would constantly be greatly promoted by the exchange of the forced and tardy toil of the bondsmen for the regular cheerful labor of the freeman — The experiment of emancipation wherever it has been fairly tried incontestably proves this — It has ceased to be matter of doubt and speculation, but has already become established as history by the testimony of many intelligent, unimpeachable witnesses —

Should we desire present quiet, unmolested peace and undisturbed fireside enjoyments, let us first away the causes that were interrupt them by an honest endeavor to do as we would be done by — Then shall we receive from them

be founded a practical misfinecation of this governing principle and our hearts will be daily swelled and made to rejoice in the ability of gratitude and confidence which on every hand will meet us—

If parents or would not earnestly object—And are you willing your precious children should continue the educated under the influence of slavery?—What are the habits they are prone to form? what the consequences of the example that are daily exhibited to them? what the effects upon their moral and religious lives? Oh! let us remember that unto God we must give an account for the talents he has intrusted to our charge and we solemnly ask you, and intreat you to view it as a solemn one—do you believe that the continuance of slavery is calculated, in its gainful results, to conduce to the prosperity of your beloved children in this present life or to promote their hopes of happiness in the life to come? or does it not rather inevitably tend to indurate habits of indolence, indulgence and vice, which upon their pursuit must awfully mar their future hopes?—Parents are you willing to leave your children involved in these fearful responsibilities? We conjure them as they love him, tender this subject well—

We are fully aware that there are many who believe slavery that deprecate slavery, but who see clearly no way of escaping from it—We feel tenderly for them and would offer them the language of encouragement to attend to plainly manifested duty—Pray for the increase of faith—Our heavenly Father does not require that of us which he will not enable us to perform—He hath all power in heaven and in earth, and he will remove difficulties from the way of those who are concerned above all things, how to know and do his will—It is a truth of the most glorious moment, and which we desire should be impressed deeply upon our hearts, that upon the professors of Christianity devolves the responsibility of the continuance of slavery in our land—Let them cease to uphold it among their own members; let them exert their influence against it, and it will no longer continue to taint the name of our common country—

We again repeat that he who calleth us to the discharge of any duty, will make a way for us if we look in faith unto him for help—What has been done by a portion of the Christian community may be done by all. We would speak very humbly of our own religious society, and of the course pursued by them in relation to slavery; and yet for your encouragement in freeing yourselves from the evil we think it right to advert to the fact that our forefathers, and some of them still living in advanced life, who held slaves, were led to see and feel too, that it was not for them to keep their fellow-beings in bondage and yet consistently to profess to be the followers of Him, who, (as the mouth of the Prophet) hath declared this to be the fast that he hath chosen "to loose the bands of wickedness; to undo the heavy burdens; and let the oppressed go free and that ye break every yoke"—And when this was made evident to them they dared not commune with flesh and blood, but in implicit reliance on God, they forsook the tabernacle of their fathers, held in bondage; and like, as they doubtless not remained this of them as their religious duty, did indeed enable them to accomplish it, and, we reverently believe abundantly bless them therein; and unto them may all confidingly look for a blessing on their honest endeavors faithfully to do his will on earth—

And, now in conclusion, we desire very impressively in the love of the gospel, to bring home to every bosom the solemn query, "Are my hands clean in the sight of God, of the blood of my brother?" Let us investigate the subject with hearts reverently turned unto the Author of all good, and with fervent supplications that the truth may illuminate our understandings, and that it may now be presented to us in that light in which it will appear at the day of final judgment. May we continually remember the declaration of Holy Writ, "If thou forbear to deliver them that are drawn unto death, and those that are ready to be slain; if thou sayest, behold, we knew it not, doth not he that pondereth the heart consider it? and he that keepeth thy soul, doth not he know it? and shall not he render to every man according to his works?"

May the God of all grace and consolation bless us, and enable us clearly to perceive our duty and faithfully to pursue it, that we may experience the verification of the ancient promise "Then shall thy light break forth as the morning, and thy health shall spring forth speedily, and thy righteousness shall go before thee; the glory of the Lord shall be thy rere-ward. Then shalt thou call, and the Lord shall answer; thou shalt cry, and he shall say, here I am."

Signed on behalf and by direction of a meeting of the Representatives of the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England held at Providence, Rhode Island, the 2nd of 2nd mo. 1842

Samuel Boyd Clerk —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at East Greenwich 3d mo. 4 1842

Present 14 members —

The subject of providing for the accommodation of our ensuing Yearly Meeting claiming our attention we appoint our friends Edmund Chace, William Reynolds, Joseph Mitchell and Peter Peck to attend to that service and they are authorized to call on the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting for 600 dollars — and Rhode Island Monthly Meeting is requested to attend its assistance as heretofore — and the Clerk is directed to furnish that meeting with a copy of this minute —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Newport 6th mo: 11th 1842—
Present 30 members—

The Committee appointed to have the essay on Slavery prepared by this meeting printed and distributed, report that they caused it to be stereotyped and an edition of 6000 copies printed—about 5000 of which have already been circulated in the Southern States and elsewhere as directed by this meeting—They also inform that in addition to this number 3000 copies have been furnished at cost to the Mest. for Sufferings of New York Yearly Mest. by request of that Mest.—

The Clerk informs that of the 3000 Memorials of deceased Friends printed by this Mest. 1322 have been called for by Monthly Meetings and individuals ~~friends~~ 1000 have been sold to the Trustees of Obadiah Brown's Benevolent Fund as directed by this Mest. and 678 remain in the hands of the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting—All the monthly meetings have not been heard from—

We have received at this time from Ohio Meeting for Sufferings a copy of an Address to the members of the Society of Friends by Joseph Edgerton printed by direction of that Meeting—which is acceptable to us—

The Clerk is directed to lay the Records of this Meeting for the past year before the Yearly Meeting—

Adjourned to the close of the Yearly Meeting—

Samuel Boyd Tobey Clerk—